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History
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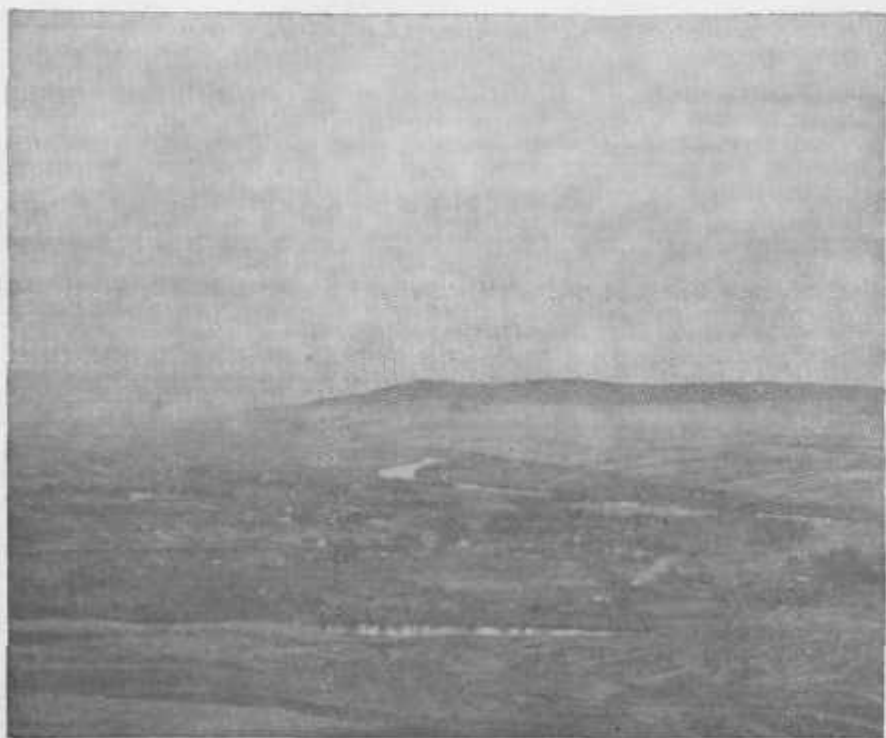
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1853 - 1959

Reference Only

1959

WE DEDICATE THESE PAGES
TO THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US
WITH HOPE AND VISION CLEAR;
SO THOSE WHO COME LONG AFTER US
WILL KNOW WE HELD OUR VALLEY DEAR.



Panorama View of Kiona and Benton City

HISTORY COMMITTEE OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

CLAUDE KENDALL	HOWARD GRENDING	HALCIE GWIN
INEZ JOHNSON	MAUDE HARTMAN	CARL E. McGEEHEE
HARLEY SWEANEY	JOYCE SWEANEY	ELSIE RUSSELL
MARNI TAYLOR	ETTA STONE	MRS. LEROY VAN HORN

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT HEADS

BOUNDARY	ROBERT JOHANSON
HOUSING	MARNI TAYLOR
POPULATION	HERMAN MONTGOMERY
ORGANIZATION	FRANK DAER
CHURCH	EARL CLARK
GOVERNMENT	TED ROUSE
SOCIAL AGENCIES	PAULINE BOTKER
LIBRARY	LENORE STONE
PLANNING & BEAUTIFICATION	BILL WESTOVER
EDUCATION	HERMAN PAAS
RECREATION	JIM SURCH
HISTORY	MAUDE HARTMAN
YOUTH-PARENT RELATIONS	BURNS DAMON
AGRICULTURE	HERBERT BURLEW
INDUSTRY-LABOR	T. E. SPARKS
COMMUNITY ARTS	HOWARD STEIR
TRADES-SERVICES	LOIS LAMBIER
PUBLICITY	CHUCK CONWAY

CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR	LEVI AUSTIN
CITY CLERK	MAUDE HARTMAN
COUNCILMEN	LILY DELLERE
	C. W. ABBOTT, H. A. KONKLE, J. C. PRUITT, R. H. PACKARD
WATER SUPERINTENDENT	E. C. MAPLES
CITY MARSHALL	CAROL MAPLES
PRESIDENT CHAMBER OF COMMERCE	BURNS DAMON
POSTMASTER	HOWARD GRENDING

1959 BUSINESS FIRMS IN BENTON CITY

1.	Alsbery Apartments	Rentals
2.	Brooks Apartments	Rentals
3.	Rustic Apartments	Rentals
4.	Maples Two Motels	Rentals
5.	County Shed	County Affairs
6.	Preston Brooks	Oil-Motor Repairs
7.	Rainbow Service Station	Gas-Repairs
8.	Big Y Warehouse	Fruit-Asparagus
9.	Benton City Construction	Howard Alsbery
10.	Burns Damon	Insurance
11.	Wall's Fixit Shop	Repairs
12.	Family Cafe	Hills Restaurant
13.	Benton City Hardware	Austins
14.	Save-O-Lot	Groceries
15.	Dick's Clothing	Dick Acht
16.	City Hall	City Affairs
17.	Goplin Drugs	Drugs and Supplies
18.	Old National Bank	Robert Baird, Mgr.
19.	Hanson's T.V. Shop	T.V. Repairs
20.	Lloyd Kincaid	Jewelry
21.	Post Office	Mail
22.	Jess Hess	Theater and Cabins
23.	Western Auto	Bob Johanson
24.	Burruss Hi-Power	Gas and Repairs
25.	Oddfellows Hall	Lodge
26.	Liquor Store	Liquors
27.	Benton County Times	Newspaper
28.	Dvoraks Garage	Gas and Repairs
29.	Camp's Grocery	Groceries
30.	Variety Store	Clothing
31.	Barber Shop	Shaves and Haircuts
32.	Beauty Shop	Permanents
33.	Tavern	Liquors
34.	Benton Trading Company	Groceries
35.	Chamber of Commerce	City Affairs
36.	Doctor's Clinic	Medicine and Surgery
37.	White's Welding Shop	Repairs
38.	Houston's Garage	Repairs
39.	Winnie's Ceramic Shop	Ceramics
40.	Mildred's Ceramic Shop	Ceramics
41.	Lassie Hess Shop	Ceramics

1959 BUSINESS FIRMS IN KIONA

1.	Post Office	Mrs. Elanor Cook
2.	Sampson's Grain Elevator	Wheat
3.	Cook's Electric	Repairs and Etc.
4.	Veda's Flower and Feed Store	Memorial flowers and etc.
5.	Chevron Station and Groceries	Boatman, Bud and Marg.
6.	Dip-Inn Cafe	Myers
7.	Texaco Station	J. G. Shiele
8.	Kiona Fruit Stand	John Mosley
9.	Szendree's Garage	Gas and Repairs
10.	Les's Tavern	Liquors
11.	Shell Service Station	Gas and Groceries, Harry Horr
12.	Mitchell's Construction	M. L. Mitchell
13.	Save-Mor Gas Co.	C. D. Thysell
14.	Ben Mar Motel	Browning rentals

IN THE BEGINNING

Every worthwhile venture usually has had a very humble beginning. Such was the case of the territory surrounding what eventually became the town of Benton City in Benton County, State of Washington.

The first recognition given any number of white settlers having been anywhere near this community was in the late summer of 1853 over 100 years ago when a weary, bedraggled group of emigrants that later was called the Longmire Train struggled overland from Indiana past Emigrant Hill alongside the tricky Snake till they paused at the banks of the mighty Columbia where it has a confluence with the Snake River.

They had been heckled for sometime by a bunch of Indians who were delegated by Chief Kamiakin, leader of the Yakima tribes, who in a conference with chiefs of the Walla Walls, the Cayuses, the Umatillas and the Klickitats had decided to prevent the white men from settling in Indian country. In time they would make war if they had to.

The Indians had no desire to sell any part of what they thought was the land theirs by right for to their uneducated minds it was as hallowed ground for they cherished the earth the same as their mothers bosom. Nor did they feel the white men had any right to just move in and help themselves to whatever land they might desire.

Kamiakin controlled nearly five thousand Indians of small tribes.

But an old prophecy which the red men remembered with fear in their hearts was that of an old medicine man who foretold that some day the white men would descend on the Indian country in such numbers as the leaves on the trees, that they would comb Mother Earth with their plows, cut down the giant trees of the forests with their axes, and take the fish from the rivers for their food.

The Indians were afraid of the white men because they brought in such diseases as smallpox and the measles and in those days the red men depended a great deal on their sweat houses to cure all ills. At a pioneer banquet held in Yakima several years ago the audience heard an old Indian (George Olney) who was totally blind though he was well versed in old squabbles the Indians had with the white men told in his speech, "The Indians were just as much afraid of the whites as they were of the Indians."

But at the meeting of the great Chiefs of the various tribes it was Kamiakin who counseled the warriors to delay the white settlers in every way possible, when the Indians heard this wagon train was getting close to their territory. He had the idea that crossing the pass through the mountains to Puget Sound the deep snows would halt the travellers, hunger and cold would get in plenty of licks and the people would be so discouraged they would go back and follow the road down the Columbia to Oregon where so many whites were already located.

The red men had no way to measure the determination of the white men with their cherished goal not too far away after the long tramp from their old homes beyond the Mississippi.

Although the many Indian tribes had roamed hither and yon over the sagebrush covered valley and the luscious grasslands of the Horse Heaven Hills for years on end, they also regarded the land north of the Rattlesnake Range as their property. As the white emigrants came down the Snake River and paused by the banks of the wide Columbia they were at a loss of how to cross this formidable barrier in their path. They had thought there would be a ferry to carry their stock and belongings across but such was not the case.

The white men finally bartered with the Indians to help them across the river but when it came to the actual crossing there was a decided hitch till the whites dug up more money which they did. Reaching the west bank of the Columbia the weary emigrants trudged through the dust northwestward till the banks of the Yakima was reached. The tension was very great as the women and children were in a constant state of terror from fear of the Indians. Finally a young married woman hit on the thought of music to quell the annoying red men keeping the whites in state of turmoil as well as eating up the food so badly needed by the wagon train to last till the end of their destination.

Arousing the Indian curiosity by the singing and music composed of stringed instruments . . . the banjo, violin, guitar and harmonica must have had some effect on the red mens superstition for they were greatly intrigued at the most unusual and interesting sounds.

After crossing the Yakima river the train still surged northwestward around the turn of that stream which flows directly north turns to the east for some distance and then circles exactly southward making an almost perfect U turn which came to be known as the "Horn". This bend of the river is about 6 miles north of Benton City. Here the party was delayed for several days by the Indians giving wrong directions and they left one of their number buried in a crude grave. The caravan plodded ever westward though still harassed by a number of Indians. The Yakima bounds the town of Benton City on the south and east and in passing the "Horn" the Horse Heaven Hills loom to the south as the Rattlesnake Range marks the skyline on the north.

Johnny Buck or Pah-
kiotot of the Wana-
pun or river people
at Priest Rapids.

Died Sept. 11, 1956



As the wagon train forged westward from the "Horn" to Wells Springs located on the E. F. Benson ranch on Cold Creek one of the men of the train remarked to his plodding companion . . . "If we don't like it on Puget Sound we can always come back here." However the train after many hardships continued on and finally reached the Pacific Coast.

In following Chief Kamiakin's orders to annoy the white emigrants all the red men thought of was to hasten the white mens departure from their own country. Later on by the treaty of 1855 between the white men and the thousands of red skins, the Great White Father (Governor Issac Stevens) made a promise to the many tribes of Indians as . . . "As long as the sun rises in the east and goes down in the west; as long as Mount Adams and Mount Ranier stay white with snow; as long as the Yakima River flows into

the Columbia and on to empty in the Pacific Ocean . . . he will keep his promise to care for the Indians."

Up on the north slope of the Rattlesnake Range it is rumored there is a big ring where sometime or another there has been a large Indian encampment. The sagebrush has been trampled into dust by the passage of many feet and must have been where many tribes met to talk over their affairs. Possibly a good spring nearby made this a good spot for the Indians to sojourn.

Along the Yakima River as well as the Columbia are special signs made by the red men showing the direction to the closest water hole. There was some years ago two fine Indian Arrowhead collections at Kiona and Mrs. Auggie Frye's at Benton City. In looking at Mrs. Frye's collection she had a number of frames with choice arrowheads under glass hanging on the walls of the room. They were mounted on white cotton for a background. Then in boxes were collections of stones to be laid out for inspection. She had arrowheads of all shapes, sizes and descriptions. Colors too varied with each other in indescribable beauty. Some were of onyx, others of obsidian and lovely agate. There were long ones, short ones and a good many narrow. The most perfect were of basalt and carnelian with many kinds unknown. There was a string of wampum (Indian money). These white disks, not as large as a quarter, were carved and round with holes of about the same size in the center. They had a cold clammy feel and were made either of bones or shells. Another exhibit was of long, smooth rubbed stones—worn down to serve as scrapers. The squaws used these to clean the hides of wild animals. There were bone needles and thimbles used to sew the buckskins into garments. At the bottom of one box was a blood-thirsty looking tomahawk.

And where did all these remarkable arrowheads come from?

In fingering the stone-tipped missiles, some of them whetted as sharp as knife blades one found they were for the most part exquisitely carved, those death dealing chips of stone. Some had very slender points which bespoke the bloody intent of the person who had made them.

These stones were found at points along the Columbia River to way down the Klickitat county banks of the great river. By sifting the soil in a screened box one may be rewarded by finding a fine arrowhead. Some of the arrows more than likely have been washed into the sand bars from eastern Washington and Idaho. And then over the Klickitat country and the Yakima Valley there are numerous burying grounds where undoubtedly battles have been fought. No one knows how long these have been buried under the sand since they were in constant use. Around the lower valley at Goose Gap up the canyon . . . the wild geese come in to feed in great flocks at certain seasons of the year. One can wager a guess nothing would live long that one of these arrows hit. The tribesmen who once inhabited the reaches of the Columbia as well as the Yakima left many symbols behind them for the coming white men to read and decipher. Painted pictures on rocks and also signs remain through the most devastating weather of numerous decades.

After the dam was put in on the east side of the "Horn" and a salmon run was on fishermen used to come from all over to catch the toothsome fish some weighing up to thirty pounds or more and it was sure a sight to see the Indians and whitemen alike fishing by the hour. This delicate meat has more flavor and tastes far better than any fish commercially canned. Here too the Indians had their drying sheds and Mrs. Gwin vouches for the fact that these dried salmon when cooked were really worth eating. It took a good deal of joy out of the lives of many Nimrods when this sport was finally curtailed owing to state regulations. And about 1914 one of the most stirring sights ever witnessed was of the Yakima River when a huge salmon run was on. The banks of the river were chuck full of leaping silver-coated bodies charging up the stream to their spawning grounds along the upper reaches of the Yakima. This sight was one in a million to behold. In later years since the building of dams in the Columbia River it is feared the salmon runs in the big river are about a thing of the past.

In the early days Dan McAlpin was farming a large acreage in hops now known as the old Pryor place. He always had a lot of Indians working for him in hop picking time. An interested observer talked to an old man who doubtless had no idea of how old he was. He camped by the Kiona bridge

and delighted in showing where the Yakima River turns north above the old Kennedy house where once many moons (years) ago the river bed had coursed down Badger Gulch where the route can still be traced. The point of his story was . . . "One day all same go fast down that way, next day turn and go up that way," pointing to the present route. Whether this change of course was caused by a cloudburst washing out the soil, thus turning the channel northward, could not be gleaned from his excited conversation as his tale was handed down through the ages from his ancestors. Maybe a thousand years ago there might have been an earthquake to unscramble the meandering of the stream. To all questions he resorted to the Indian stoical nature by replying . . . "Me no savvy." Which is the Indian's way of saying "Nuff said." Perhaps he thought the Great Spirit had a hand in this miracle and who was he to question or create a discussion of the ways and deeds of the Almighty.

The worst flood here even in the memory of the oldest Indians was in 1894. In the years of 1861 and 1862 the snows were deep and long lasting and in 1880 and 1881 the people of the valley were sorely un eased when the winter storms caused such a terrific stock loss. In 1888 and 1889 the live stock again was in poor condition. The grazing was poor through the summer months hence the livestock was poor to go into winter. Again that winter the animal loss was terrific account of not much hay for feed through the winter.

When the Longmire train passed around the "Horn" and on through the Moxee to the upper valley the only white men they found was two Catholic priests near the present town of Tangleo. Father Pondosy had quite an influence with Chief Kamiakin so helped the white men all he could since there were many Indians scattered around the valley. They seemed to live wherever they took off their hats (if they owned one.)

During the Indian War of 1855-1856 it was impossible for white men to settle in the valley but it is likely that those who came into the valley as soldiers carried back tales of the beauty and abundance of good grazing land, because a number of cattlemen began bringing their herds into the valley in the late fifties. In 1959 William Murphy and Ben Snipes also John Nelson and Fred Allen brought herds into the upper valley but they did not settle permanently. It seems to be a considered fact that F. M. Thorp was the first permanent stockman in the Yakima Valley.

By the end of 1865 the entire population of Yakima and Kittitas counties probably did not exceed two hundred people, most of them in the cattle business. Although most of the settlers were engaged in stock raising some experiments were being made in agriculture. Small orchards were being set out along the Yakima River and a five acre tract seeded to wheat yielded forty bushel crop. The success of these experiments lead to the idea of irrigation projects for the Yakima Valley.

During the early seventies the Northern Pacific Railroad Company filed its maps of preliminary location in the U.S. Land Office. This map showed the railroad would traverse the Yakima Valley from the lower to upper end. There can be no doubt that the prospect of a railroad hastened the settlement of the country. In 1883 the Cascade Division of the railroad was built from the banks of the Columbia to a point about three miles west of Kiona. Late in the fall of 1884 it was extended into Yakima City or Old Town or Union Gap as it is now known. About two years later the road was extended on across the Cascade Mountains. At least now the people of the valley had a means of getting their produce and livestock to good markets in the east.

During the summer of 1885 there were over 37,000 head of cattle, over 4,000 horses and nearly 30,000 head of sheep shipped by rail out of the Yakima Valley to markets in Montana and Chicago. Many things worked together to bring about changes in the valley. The railroad made it easier to get things to market but it also was the means of bringing more people as settlers into the territory. As more people arrived the cattle industry decreased. It had long been apparent that the development of the Yakima valley must be through Irrigation Canal Construction. The railroad was the incentive that interested a group of men from Niagara Falls, N.Y. to finance the construction of the Kiona Irr. Canal. This work began about 1887 completed in 1889 when a few families moved to Kiona and took Government land.



The Yakima River looking north from 410 highway

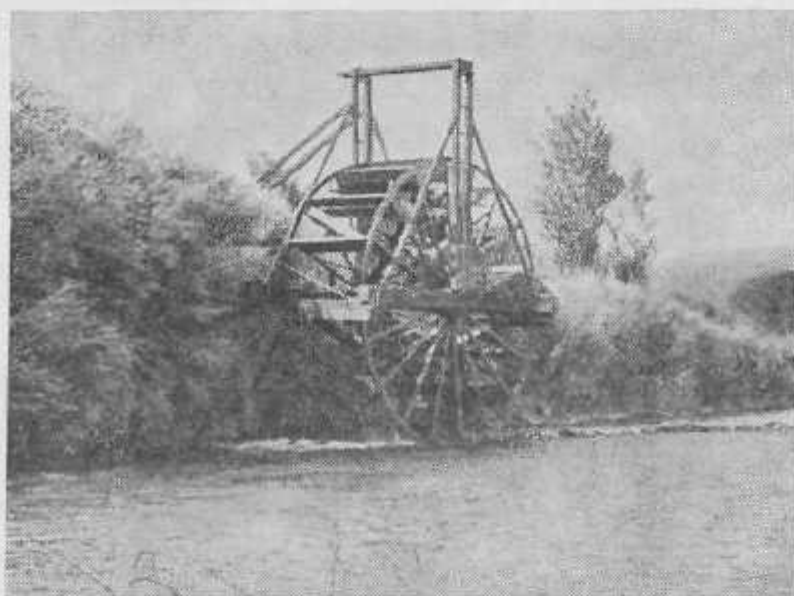
Kiona

There were three families living in Kiona before construction was started on the Kiona Irrigation Canal. They were the Neils, Samuel Lightles and Solomon Browning. Mr. Neil was the first section foreman on the Northern Pacific Railway and he purchased the land between the river and the railroad. He also claimed some Government land across the river under the Kiona canal. The Samuel Lightle family came to Kiona in 1887, drawn by advertising of the Railroad concerning the Kiona Canal. Mr. Lightle claimed an eighty acre tract of Government land on the North side of the river. (S $\frac{1}{2}$ of the SE $\frac{1}{4}$ Sec. 18). This would lie north of Hedger Avenue and East of A Street. There were five children in the family, Harry, William, Roll, Ernest and a daughter, Nellie. Roll is the authority for much of Kiona history. Samuel Lightle was the first teacher in Kiona and also the first Justice of the Peace. He taught in a little building located near the present Shill Tavern. The school was started for the benefit of the children of the construction workers on the Northern Pacific. Later there were only nine students, three Lightles, 2 Brownings, three Neils and Bob Travis who rode down from Horse Heaven. Sol Browning was a brother of Mrs. Lightle. He took up 160 acres of Government land, running from the present intersection of Main and East A street to the river and north for one mile. In later years he succeeded in raising both cotton and peanuts in the sandy soil on the lower river road and had a large colony of bees.

C. S. Prowell was the roadmaster on the Northern Pacific. He bought the land south of Hedger Avenue to the river. He also owned land on the east side of the river where the Louis Rowley family now lives. He had plans for constructing a canal along the north side of his property and siphoning water across the river to irrigate his land on the East side. Part of the canal was dug and can still be seen below the Donald Kerr place and on past the Masonic Hall. He later sold his land east of the river to a Mr. Coatney who sold to Lou Armacost, stepfather of C. E. Rowley, whose son Louis Rowley is now farming the land and raises some of the best alfalfa, corn, grapes and asparagus grown in the community.

Mr. Prowell in 1895 induced his brother-in-law, Dr. F. S. Hedger, to come to Kiona from Missoula, Montana. The family lived on the Ely place just north of the school until they built their home, now owned by L. S. Carnahan. This was the center of early day hospitality, surrounded by a beautiful lawn and roses. Dr. Hedgers practice extended from Prosser to Kennewick and his bay trotters and light buggy were familiar to the entire area. He was a real horticulturist, always experimenting with new varieties. He developed a grape which was named Hedgers Keepers and was palatable till long after the holidays.

Residents of Kiona were surprised one day in August 1941 when without any warning a cloudburst hit on the hills just south of town. The water came down a small canyon just above the railroad viaduct and washed out the 410 highway. The Standard Oil Delivery truck was unloading gasoline at Cobbs Corners when Don Elliott looked up from his work and saw the water come roaring through the viaduct. His loud yell of fear was heard by Mr. and Mrs. Cobb. "Run fast. The whole Yakima River is coming down the road." Needless to say they ran but Don was too late getting to safety. The rush of water rolled him against a pole where it took all his strength to cling till he was safe. The basement, lawn and goldfish pond were filled with mud.



Water wheel for irrigation on Yakima, supplanted by ditches and canals

The worst flood in the memory of Indians or of the white race was in 1894. Other floods came along in 1917, 1922, 1933 and again in 1948. After every flood there is crop and property damage. Floods are caused by a heavy snowfall in the mountains, then the warm Chinook Winds come to melt the snow so fast that the river bed is unable to carry the water. In 1917 the flood caused the old bridge timbers at the side of what is now the old bridge across the Yakima to take off for parts unknown down the river. The flood in 1922 was a humdinger. One could see from a vantage point at Corral Creek the many men with poles feeling out the N.P. Railway tracks ahead of the slow moving trains. Argus Hughes lifted groceries from his store floor up on top of the counters as the flood waters lapped the railroad tracks south of the depot. The flood in 1933 was plenty high and caused considerable damage. The N.P. trains could only go as far as Union Gap where the passengers



Grapes from this vineyard at Benton took first prize at Washington State Fair in 1910, and won first prize at Spokane same year

were transferred to another coast train. In 1948 deliverymen from Kennewick had to go up over the Horse Heaven Hills to Prosser then cross the river there and down to Benton City on the north side of the river. It was with a breath of relief all over the Valley people were joyous when the threat-



Viaduct at Kiona during the cloudburst



Thousands of head of cattle, summer pastured on the mountain ranges, are driven to the Yakima Valley for winter feeding

ened flood of 1956 was averted by cold spells and slow melting snow piled high in the mountains.

In 1933 the water began rising before Christmas with much debris floating down. A watchman was kept at the Kiona bridge for fear the load hitting the bridge would cause it to wash out. Families along the river had to move out and those who held down the fort were alarmed Christmas morning when the flood brought about 8 inches of mud in their homes. The "High Water" mark of previous floods can still be seen on some homes.

The water crested several feet lower in 1948 than in 1933. Much damage was done the grape vineyards along the river with having debris washed alongside the vines and a lot of top soil was lost by washing away. Then too a few families on the north side of the river had to move out but only two of the houses on the south side were flooded.

Another cloudburst roared down Badger Canyon from Weber Canyon later and damaged the 410 highway and nearly washed a house away.

In the memory of old-timers the first bridge across the Yakima at Kiona was in 1889. Before being built the only way to cross over was by rowboat



Kiona bridge during the 1933 flood taken from the 410 highway



Cobb's house during the 1941 cloudburst

or a small ferry or when shallow water one might wade. Later a new bridge was built in 1916 and in 1947 this bridge was replanked. Since the new bridge (painted green) has been built farther down stream much criticism has been for the short approach on the south side. Then too if a flood should hit what would it do to the approach on the north side? That is anybody's guess.

The year is unknown when a freight train was derailed and quite a wreck resulted about a quarter of a mile east of the Kiona depot. A large number of sheep were killed and a carload of oranges was scattered hither and thither along the tract.

The Giezentanner family were all quite musical and the mother particularly had a very fine voice. But the father considered shows the work of the devil. Every old-timer comments about the good times held in the Community school-house. The John Palmer family lived on what is now the Wallace farm and for many years served the community with fresh milk in glass bottles and newly grown vegetables. In later years whole families attended the country dances held in various homes or at the Oddfellows Hall in Kiona. It was a great treat when the orchestra played and Bert Molinder, who had a very fine voice, sang "Love Letters in the Sand", while the crowd moved briskly to the music.

The wheat farmers coming down from the hill were the Kelsos, M. C. Smith, Hans and Dick Smith, Bill Dennis and Bob Moore, Mel Dimmick, Homer McBee, with W. C. and B. S. Travis. The Crump families and V. B. Clark, Elmer See, Joe Long, Ed and Solomon Weber, Lovell Travis, Dutch Myers and Everett Roberts, Walt Faville with Jim Lowery. Then too there were Charley Spencer also W. L. Dimmick and Harry Fisk with Tom Horrell too. Charlie Tompkins had charge of the County well after it was put in on the hill. Len Rolph was another old-timer up there while Jacob Giezentanner was the first postmaster at Kiona. Mary Weber operated a small grocery store but is buried up in Evergreen cemetery. Rev. Feak was an early day minister. The Horse Heaven wheat men were closer to Kiona and later Benton City to do their trading.

Before the county well was in operation the wheat men obtained their domestic water supply from Coyote springs, Badger springs, Cliff springs and Two springs up in Webber canyon whichever place was closest to their farms. For stock water the ranchers were kept busy hauling water from the river at Kiona to their homes on the hill. Imagine the Kelso farm with 60 head of horses and mules to keep watered every day. In those days all farming was done by the four-footed beasts. Now they use tractors and up-to-date equipment.



Early combine harvester used on Horse Heaven wheat ranches

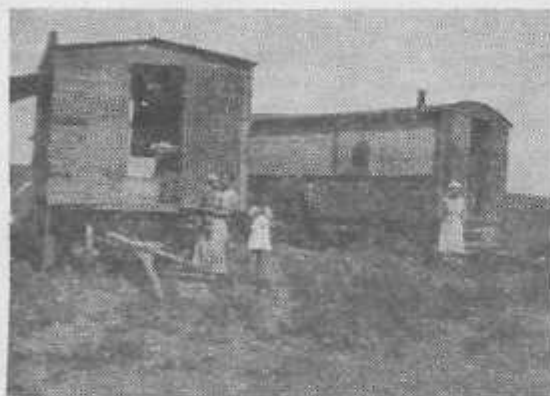
The beauty spot of Kiona was the Northern Pacific lawn still in use which in the olden days had many beautiful flowers in bloom all during the summer. In the summer months picnics and social gatherings were held nearly every day of the week and always on the Sundays. The first piano in town belonged to Mrs. W. W. Scott and the Oddfellows and Rebekahs took care of Mrs. Inez Johnson's piano during the winter of 1913.

The large Kelso hotel also housed the Postoffice. In their dining room meals were outstanding in quality and very appetizing. Served family style for 50 cents per person. Years later the Bowle Restaurant in Prosser beat this price by half 25c per meal. They could serve meals cheap in those days for they raised everything that was put on the table. It was your own fault if you left the table hungry. You can't get a sandwich today for 25c. Oh no.

The real early settlers having homes under the Kiona ditch were the Rolphs, Ketchims, McAlpins and the Lightles, Patons and Trouts. The Callows and Chisholms, Kennedys and Palmers (George), Frank Rolph and Capt. Adm. C. Wimer with Ezra Hill, a potato grower, also Dr. Hedger and M. A. McBean. So too the Scotts and the T. B. Kendalls and many others took hold to bring up the population. Marian French and her brother once operated a newspaper at Kiona. She later married Frank Rolph.

Up until 1913 the only way one could possibly get away from the town of Kiona, outside of the railroad was at that time over an old worn trail winding westward through the sagebrush around the hills crossing the gullies and deeper canyons from Kiona to Prosser. And from Kiona to Richland from much the same road as of today. Half the time along these trails, one had to take to the sagebrush on account of the high centers in the road bed. On the way to Richland Dr. Schwington had land east of the viaduct up on the hill farmed by Ralph McAlpin. The big square house has long since been burned down.

The school-house building now known as the Community Center was always full to the brim with scholars and also served as a clearing house for all sorts of get-togethers. It was later given to the community by Mrs. Prowell for social activities. When the old brick school building which was recently razed to the ground was first about to be opened it was with a feeling of elation a number of women from the Womens Improvement Club proceeded to plant a tree on the grounds as a good-will gesture. It is too bad the school children of yesterday did not have all the conveniences the children of today enjoy.



Cook wagons used in the Horse Heaven



Kiona bridge during 1948 flood

In the nineteen hundreds one of the show places in this area was the cement barn belonging to T. B. Kendall built so they said from the sale of strawberries. Later Al. McAlpin vied with the Kendalls in the production of this early crop. At one time Mr. McAlpin had 30 acres in strawberries. In his lifetime Mr. McAlpin stated he had seen the flood waters from the Yakima lapping the ridge eleven times where the Union Pacific tracks now run across the main road leading out of town.

There was a section foreman at Kiona long ago who was a Russian by birth. He had a nice wife, two lovely daughters, and a son of 17 years. The son was not gifted with the ambition to work so the father decided it was high time for the boy to earn his boardbill. There was a huge pile of railroad ties in the backyard. So the father ordered the son to get out the cross-cut saw and proceed to cut these ties into 16 inch lengths for their heater in the cold winter ahead. On the quiet the son interviewed several men about his idea of rigging up a small motor with saw to save a lot of hard work. Some of the men helped the boy pleased at his foresightedness. With a chum they had a sizeable pile of wood sawed up when the father arrived home from work that night. It made the father so mad that the boy was so smart to get out of the laborious task assigned him that he proceeded to dismantle the whole contraption and forced the boy to do the job his way . . . the hardest and slowest way possible. He gave the son no credit for using his head. Needless to say the son soon left home.



Wooden water tank used in the early days

There was a robbery once in Kiona, a watch, gun and several things were taken. The victim called the sheriff at Prosser and had the law men come down and look things over to recover the lost articles. There was an awful nice old man living just north of Kennedy's house alongside the river. He had a small cabin where later Clon VanDeventer had his slaughter house and the railroad men enjoyed having him come by the depot every day to sit and talk. He was well read and an interesting person to meet. In his search the sheriff went down and told the old gentleman "We have come to search your house." The elderly man was amazed so they finally told him of the robbery. "Go ahead and search," he told them. They searched, tearing the mattress off the bed and their keen eyes never missed a single place where things might be hid. Finally they were satisfied he had none of the stolen articles and prepared to depart.

"You boys haven't searched enough yet" he advised them. "Oh yes," they replied, "we are satisfied you are innocent." But he drew a pistol on them and told them to keep searching. Then hunted and hunted for dear life and the old man kept prodding them with his gun of they paused for breath. It was sunup next morning when he let them go after an all night of work and the law men told up town . . . "We were never so scared in all our lives. We were afraid he meant to kill us." The old man came up to Kiona during the day and told "I was never so hurt in all my life to think anyone would believe I would steal." It was not long before he left for greener pastures thinking people would believe he was a thief.

Merle Kelso, a former Kiona girl had the pleasure of attending the coronation of Queen Elizabeth of Great Britain. Merle also taught for two years while she was over there. She now lives in California.

Mrs. Inez Johnson who has been a Yakima Valley resident ever since in June 1905 has been accorded the first person to have a novel published with the locale set in this area.

Most of the newcomers to this vicinity have marveled at the winding McBee grade climbing up to Horse Heaven from Kiona. Take a look at the second deep canyon lurching downward from the road almost at the top of the grade. Go on with this story and you will understand what the snow-covered road must have been like in January of 1907. The construction crew of the Oregon-Washington Railway now called the Union Pacific, had their horses housed at the Bus McApln farm south of the Kiona ditch west of Benton City, now owned by A. E. Scott. Also nearby was a large repair shop for the scrapers and other equipment used in railroad grading. It was a very severe winter and the contractor had an agreement with Charley Richey, a



First tractor to be used in Horse Heaven, on Kelso Bros. ranch

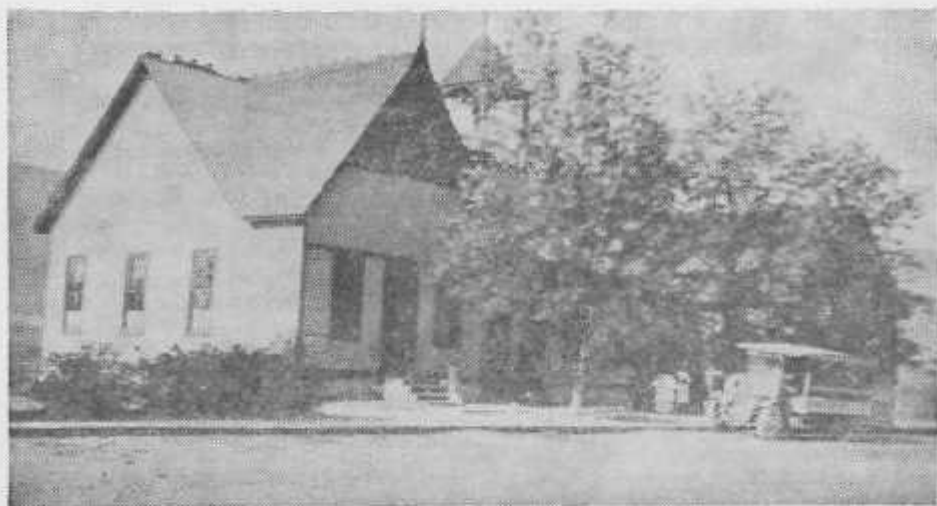
Horse Heaven wheat farmer, to buy the grain needed for the horses. With the heavy snowstorm, the grain on hand was exhausted and something drastic must be done to get more feed immediately.

No one seemed in the humor to attempt the long climb up the McBee grade with its icy curves. Finally Bus McAlpin asked Horace Dimmick who was driving a team for him on the railroad grading if he thought he could drive up to the Richey ranch and bring back a load of the much needed grain. The perilous grade of road was drifted over with snow until it could hardly be distinguished from the rolling humps of the main hill. Mr. Dimmick however being an experienced teamster and knowing the road well over which he must travel agreed at last to make the trip.

Bus McAlpin made the remark . . . "Horace, if you can't make it up to Richie's and back, no one can."

Mr. McAlpin had four beautiful iron-grey horses so they were chosen for the hazardous trip. The Richey ranch was reached beyond the top of the grade, the grain loaded and the return trip started. All went well until a ways down the grade from the top where the snow had drifted most of the upgrade tracks shut, the driver had to go by a by-guess and by-gosh survey of just where to drive to stay on the road. On one of the sharp curves the heavily loaded wagon began to slip sideways, hence the driver had no control over the heavy load. Everything was frozen and the brakes were no help whatsoever so the bulky wagon continued to slide until it heaved downhill backwards by an unpredictable force pulling the wagon-load horses and driver off the roadway with a long steep canyon downhill as the ultimate destination. Since he could not stop the inevitable holocaust Horace Dimmick jumped free to save his own life for there was nothing he could do to prevent what was happening. After sliding a distance, the wagon, load and horses piled up at the bottom of the canyon.

Bus McAlpin was watching from his home place for sight of the team and wagon coming on the homeward trip. He and others witnessed the accident and Bus got on his saddle horse and rushed to the scene of the catastrophe. When he came up to the wreck Mr. Dimmick was cutting the harness with a small jackknife to free two of the animals apparently unhurt. One of the others had broken a leg and had to be dispatched at once and the other one was badly hurt and had to be killed. The two unhurt ones were led down the balance of the deep canyon to the road going from Kiona to Prosser thence to Kiona and on to the McAlpin ranch. It is now known where feed was finally obtained to carry the road workers animals through until the snow melted on the road.



Schoolhouse built in 1895

SCHOOL

The first school in this community was built in 1887 to accomodate the children of the construction workers who were putting the Northern Pacific Railway through Kiona. The building was just a rough shack located on the property now known as the Kennedy place. When the railroad crews left and the bridge constructed and the Kiona Canal completed, this building was removed to what is now East First St.

Sam Lightle and his family had come to the area before the railroad was completed, drawn by the advertising of the Northern Pacific and the Yakima Valley Irrigation and Improvement Company. This was a group of Niagara Falls, New York Bankers investing in the canal and promoting its development. I. W. and Frank Dudley, a Doctor Ely and others whose names are lost. I. W. and Frank Dudley built the house now occupied by the McClaskeys, Dr. Ely a white one which burned, someone of the company the McBean house for the use of their ditch rider.

The Rosencrans children from the lower Yakima, Althea, Ben and May, attended school with the Neil children, the McAlpins, Ketchams, Geizentanners. Mr. Lightle taught the school while it was on the Kiona side of the river and also after it was moved. The land for a new school was donated by C. S. Prowell, the engineer in charge of building the Railroad, and the building was erected in 1895, a two room school tho only one room was used for many years. It had a bell, kerosene lamps and a wood-coal stove, which used to pour out clouds of smoke whenever there was a slight breeze.

The Directors finally woke up to the fact that when school was dismissed on account of the smoke the big boys got to go goose hunting and a little detective work uncovered the fact that the janitor's son had a handy board which he laid over the chimney when ever the geese were flying low.

Early teachers included Mable Fry, Anna Jungst, Winifred Paton, J. W. Gilkey, who later was the County Superintendent of Schools of Benton County. By 1902 the school had grown large enough to warrant hiring two teachers. The principal was Nelson Williams, a graduate of the University of Toronto, and the lower grades were taught by Mrs. Bertha Nagle, wife of the N.P. Agent at Kiona. Mr. Williams also coached some of the older girls for the teachers examination in School Laws and common school subjects, which was the only requirement then. They went to Pasco riding a freight caboose for the trip took the tests and proudly received Second Grade certificates. At the ripe age of 18 they began teaching for \$50.00 a month paying \$10.00 for board and room.



Kiona-Beton Schools

By 1912 the Highland section was being settled and the town of Benton City developed by S. J. Harrison spurred on by the extension of Sunnyside Canal and the building of the U.P. Railroad. F. L. Audrain was principal and organized a Canning Club which gained the State Championship and National Recognition. The first class to graduate in 1915 had Milford and Daisy Roop with Freeman Gibson.

Milford Roop returned here after the First World War and was Superintendent for 23 years. He and his wife raised three boys who were all in World War II service, Milford, Wallace and Johnny. In 1923 the building was outgrown and a two-story building was erected on the townsite of Benton City. The old building was donated to the Community by Mrs. Prowell when a hardwood floor was laid, painting and general renovating done. This building has served for 36 years as the scene or varied activities. It was recently torn down to make room for more modern structures.

Three large new buildings, modern in every respect have been erected during the last few years, additional land has been purchased, and large playgrounds surround the buildings. School busses now run from several miles down the river on the east beyond Kiona on the south to beyond Badger, also covering the Roza District and the lower valley and Corral Creek ranches. The enrollment now is 190 in High School and 500 pupils in the grades. There are 32 teachers in the staff providing for the administration of classes and well-being of scholars.

We have had many pupils graduate from the Benton City school to go out and make a name for themselves as teachers and office workers. Several others have made a high mark for themselves in other lines of work. Many of our home boys fought in the service of our community and returned safely to take up the affairs of every day life.

Allison Hartman graduated from West Point and spent most of his career in France and Italy. He returned as Lieut. Colonel and is now living in California.

Jack Wilson was one of the most noted flyers in World War II. He had a keen eye for all details and is now a jet plane instructor in Spokane.

Alva Culp has made the Navy his career. He served all through the last war and is now stationed in San Francisco.

Forest Jenson made his mark in the baseball field. After playing ball for Benton City he went on to the big leagues and now lives in Missouri.

Raymon Grant Johnson was a Pilot in World War II. His crew was shot down over Vienna, Austria in the last big raid of the war. Eight years later this crew was brought back by the Government and buried in the National Cemetery at St. Louis, Missouri.

Russell Thompson was killed in action in Okinawa.

Ab Snyder was killed in the Korean war. Both of these boys were brought back and buried in their home plot in Evergreen Cemetery.

Marian Johnson had considerable training as a pilot. At her death she possessed every license a woman pilot can secure in the United States including that of link trainer.

Dwaine Shoemaker has just returned from a year in Little America. He served for one year with the Government's Geo-Physical program.

THE RESULTS OF PRAYER

Looking back over the lives of some of the early pioneers we recall a human interest story of Jacob Giezentanner's past before he was one of the early Postmasters of Kiona. It took place during his sojourn in the Klickitat community of Goldendale from the year 1880 to 1884 when he lived with his family on a homestead 15 miles west of Goldendale.

Times were tough for anyone in those days trying to wring a living from new uncultivated land. In the winter of 1880 and 1881 people underwent great hardships. They had wood aplenty for warmth but very little food. When a deep snow hit the homestead the family had no way of getting needed supplies with the father ill they were on nigh a starvation diet. Some stories tell about the snow averaging six feet deep that winter.

Finally came a day when there was nothing in the cabin to eat. They had exhausted about all the wheat used ground up for mush while outside a blizzard raged along with the deep snow. Being very religious the father called his family of six children, his wife and mother-in-law to him while all knelt on the floor as he prayed to the merciful God over all to send succor to his hungry family.

As he prolonged the earnest prayer beseeching help from the Almighty a heavy shuffling noise was heard on the roof of the primitive home. Not knowing what this could be, a number of the family rushed outside to investigate. A big flock of prairie chickens snowblind from the long storm were scattered over the roof and on the ground. Taking this as an answer to the prayer for help the family proceeded to capture the birds with very little effort and the mother managed to make the broth to satisfy yet not wholly appease her families hunger for several days. Then came a blessing in disguise . . . an Indian whom they had befriended time and again came struggling through the deep snow to their aid with the carcass of a deer. The Giezentanner family knew then that God was watching over them and took heart.

In 1888 the Giezentanners moved to Kiona living on a claim and 320 acres of land purchased by the father. An 80 acre tract across the road from the Cemetery is still known as the Giezentanner eighty. Years later one of the sons was to be found at the Dry Falls museum where he was an announcer speeling off the information about the place and the sights to be seen.

When the Chandler Power and Pumping plant was constructed for the purpose of siphoning water across the river this irrigation water would take care of the land by gravity flow adjacent to the town of Kiona. People had waited a long time for the chance this water would bring to their property to grow green things. Construction began on the Kennewick Irrigation Canal System in 1953. As of 1958 green fields are beginning to show up, homes are being constructed and the whole bids fair to excell as a good farming district.

While the siphon was being laid under the river either a cloudburst or an excessive amount of water from somewhere came down and penned three men in the enclosure. One of these men was able to reach safety but the other two were drowned.

In the fall of 1958 a large bear moved in and established a camping ground along the Yakima River not far from Bud Boatman's grape patch. He was evidently looking forward to a job picking grapes. The bear was down sampling the ripe fruit for juice and sugar content as to when the real picking should commence . . . when accidentally Mr. Boatman discovered him on the job. Since grape pickers were much in demand it was hard to turn Bruin down although he was very eager to help harvest the crop. But Mr. Boatman did not feel like hiring Mr. Bear because he was so wasteful eating nearly all the fruit he picked, so the law was called into take charge of him as the other pickers were too leary of him.

When Mr. and Mrs. Earl Cobb were running the service station where the Boatmans now operate they had a signal to warn each other in case of a robbery. One night Mrs. Cobb had gone to bed in the sleeping porch next to the service station when Earl in locking up the back door found himself confronted by two armed gunmen. He yelled in a loud voice to warn his wife. Mrs. Cobb thoroughly frightened never even waited to put on her shoes. She took off

barefooted and in her nightgown up the hill to the Oddfellows hall for help, fortunately the robbers were soon caught.



Community Methodist Church built 1905

HISTORY OF THE METHODIST CHURCH

No records are available of the organization of the church here beyond a brief line in the Annual Conference report of 1906 when the mention was made of a church organized in Kiona. Traveling unlicensed men were known to have held services in the school house before 1900.

The first church building was erected during the pastorate of E. H. Rubicam in 1905. Trustees were W. A. Kelso, W. C. Warren, and C. H. Spencer. Carpenters on the job were W. C. and John Warren and Lyman Young. The site had been donated by the Kelso Brothers, but it was rather close to the river and after being used for only a few months high water washed out the foundation and the building was barely saved from going down the river.

It was moved to higher ground on land again donated by the Kelsos and served for a meeting place for 50 years. With the extension of the Sunnyside Canal, the settlement of the Highlands, the coming of the Union Pacific Railroad, and the founding of Benton City, many new people moved in. A federation of Methodists and Presbyterians had been launched but did not last. The Ladies Aid led by Mrs. Arthur Johnson, President for 16 years, borrowed money from the Masonic Lodge and built a basement to accommodate the fast growing Sunday school. As soon as this loan was repaid the women turned their energies toward the building of a parsonage so a resident minister could be had. C. W. Geisler was the first to occupy the small residence with its two porches. In 1944 Rev. and Mrs. Nafus were assigned here and an era of growth began. An addition was built to the parsonage, furnace repaired and finally replaced with a gas stove, a new flood laid and the church painted.



Present Methodist Church, dedicated in 1958

As the community was growing rapidly due to the Hanford project, the time seemed ripe for either moving to a new site, selling the old building or raising the old place and laying a new basement floor. A six acre site had been purchased north of Benton City, and the Masonic Lodge offered to buy the original building and a considerable sum was given by the conference. A huge warehouse at Hanford was purchased, torn down and moved by the Fennels (father and three sons), which supplied all the dimension lumber.

Trustees at that time were I. M. Hartman, Earl Rowley and Frank Dvorak. The Masonic Lodge moved into their temple January 1st, 1952 and the building was used jointly until March of that year when church services were begun in the partly finished church on the hill. Rev. E. B. Towle was assigned to Benton City in June 1949 and had the difficult task of completing the building and furnishing it. The parsonage was not moved till 1957 when it was enlarged and modernized.

Memorial funds have bought the stained glass windows, organ, pews and altar and landscaped the grounds. The Womens Society is active in raising money for improvements especially for the parsonage. The plant is out of debt except the pews. Membership is 280. A mens club is organized and both Sunday school and Youth groups are active. The present pastor Rev. Martin has been here since 1953. Trustees are Earl Clark, Kenneth Knight, Kenneth Whan, R. H. Packard, Frenk Daer, J. W. Hartman, Harley Sweany, James Pendleton and Virgil Harrison.

ODDFELLOW AND REBEKAH LODGES

March 9th, 1907 was the first meeting of the Oddfellow Lodge on record. A charter was granted June 8th, 1907 for the organization of Kiona Lodge Number 243 and the first officers were as follows:

Noble Grand	H. D. Ryrie
Vice Grand	M. U. Dimmick
Sec. and Treas.	H. A. Shanley

The Grand Lodge Officers who granted the charter at Aberdeen Washington were as follows:

Grand Master	J. A. Graham
Grand Secretary	Louis H. Hart

Charter Members of this new Oddfellows Lodge were as follows:

W. G. Travis	C. O. Kelso	H. T. Ketchum	O. K. Aldridge
W. G. Wimer	Hans Smith	J. F. Lowery	M. U. Dimmick

June 29, 1907 the Trustees were ordered to see where they could acquire a plot of land for I.O.O.F. Cemetery and how much the cost.

On October 19th, 1907 Pearl Rebekah Lodge Number 107 Prosser convened at Kiona for the purpose of receiving and balloting on applications so that Kiona might apply for a charter.

The charter members of Rebekah Lodge number 190 in 1907 were:

Mrs. Stella Beatty (card)	Mrs. Edith McAlpin
Mrs. Jennie Ryrie	Mrs. Flora McAlpin
Miss Anna Jungst	Mrs. M. E. Whelan (card)

On March 9th, 1912 the Horse Heaven Committee reported that a barn had been built behind the meeting place (the Modern Woodmen Hall) for the teams of the members and feed was furnished by the Lodge.

On June 29th, 1912 the trustees were instructed to close a deal on the Cemetery proposition with the Kiona-Benton Cemetery Association. A deed was received for one-fourth of the Association property to be known as the Oddfellows portion on December 10th, 1912 and this deed was filed on December 15th, 1912.

During the fall months the Rebekah sisters bought nine dozen chairs together with mantels and globes for the lamps in the I.O.O.F. Hall. In September 1912 a committee was appointed by the Oddfellow members to meet with the *Modern Woodmen Brothers* to discuss the possibility of purchasing the Hall. October 26, 1912 Brother A. J. McAlpin of the Special Committee made the report the Woodmen Hall could be bought for \$200.00 from the owners plus Free Rent for 2 meetings per month for 10 years.

Nov. 16, 1912 the deed from the Modern Woodmen was recorded and the building from then on was known as The Oddfellows Hall.

DEDICATION BANQUET

APRIL 26, 1947

KIONA LODGE 243

KIONA REBEKAH LODGE 190

BENTON CITY, WASHINGTON

PROGRAM

Music	George Reed's Orchestra
Flag Ceremony	8:30 P.M.
Invocation Rev. E. Reisner	Grand Chaplain
Dedication	Mayor Oscar Hanson
Vocal Solo	Archie Borden
Introduction of Visitors	
Address of Welcome	Dennis Henson
Piano Solo	Patricia Montgomery
Response	A. Silliman
Oddfellowship	L. Kendall
Vocal Recital	H. and E. Clary

Grand and Past Grand Officers HOME SWEET HOME

Master of Ceremonies	R. Everett
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In June 1957 the two Lodges observed their 50th anniversary with many out of town visitors present as well as local people.

The Rebekah Club was organized in April 1945 for the purpose of helping the Oddfellow brothers raise money for expenses. An annual bazaar is held each fall by the club and through money earned at these events the hall has been equipped with an all electric kitchen and other features.

The Oddfellow Home is located in Walla Walla, Washington and as of the beginning of 1959 have 34 men and 37 women residents. To be eligible to enter the home one must be a certain number of years an Oddfellow, Rebekah or wife of an Oddfellow. At Christmas time each resident received a large paper bag full of gifts. Church services are held regularly.

The Junior I.O.O.F. Lodge was instituted February 11, 1956 by Austin E. Dodd Grand Master. The charter members are as follows:

Terry Kendall	Dale Marr	William Isbelle
Kent Davis	Larry Kendall	John Wolfe
Melvin Moore Jr.	Tom Travis	Keith Shoemaker
Ronald Collins	Russell Brandelein Jr.	Michael Shoemaker
Alan Davis	Steven Rouse	Michael Sjoström
Nathan Welch	Terry Parcell	Fed Priest
Richard Hamilton	David Lance	William Wiley
Kenneth Ellison	Jerry Marr	

Their charter was granted June 27, 1956.

Kenneth R. Jones Grand Secretary.

At the present time there are 39 I.O.O.F. members, 83 Rebekah sisters and 27 Junior Oddfellows.

To wind up, all four branches of the order are holding regular meetings twice a month in the Oddfellows Hall.

When Kenneth Hathaway was irrigating Mrs. Rhoades alfalfa field his two young sons aged three and six years tagged along at his heels. When he got back up to the house the three year old was missing. Looking back down in the field Mr. Hathaway saw the child down on knees hooching back and fourth in the manner of a frog. He called and called but the boy paid no attention so being curious Mr. Hathaway retraced his steps coming up behind the child to see what was doing. Imagine his consternation on seeing a coiled snake and the child carrying on a spitting and hissing act against each other.

He yanked the boy out of danger by his heels and while standing him on his feet demanded . . . "What are you doing that for? Suppose he'd bite you?" The child was not a bit fazed by the idea but squaked indignantly in reply . . . "Well! He done it to me first."

Mr. Hathaway was relieved to find it was a garter snake instead of a rattler.

August and Lena Benson, settlers on the Benton Highlands had one daughter and three sons. They were a very popular family. But the three sons delighted in tormenting their father on every possible occasion. They kept the whole community wondering just what stunt they would pull next. Once they were digging a well and after working for several days the three boys wanted the family car to go somewhere but August said, "No, you use up my gas and wear out my car running around all the time." The boys were patient—their dad had not heard the last of that. They went back to working on the well for a time and then told August . . . "We're tired. You get down in the hole and dig awhile. See how you like it." To keep the peace in the family August descended the ladder and started digging when the boys calmly pulled up the ladder and left their father for an hour or two down in the hole. Finally they went back and told August if he wanted out they would put down the ladder if they could have the car. August knowing the boys had to let them have the car or stay down in the hole all night.

THE KIONA-BENTON WOMEN'S IMPROVEMENT CLUB

The Kiona-Benton Women's Improvement Club was organized in 1909. About 20 women gathered at the home of Mrs. Mattison to start the club going with Mrs. Anna Weir elected as President of the group.

The object was civic improvement and sociability. Among their projects was the building of sidewalks to connect the town of Kiona and the new Benton City. Money was raised by amateur plays, socials and bazaars. Husbands donated the labor and many club members wielded the hammers and other tools so the walk was completed as far as the school-house the present Community Hall.

The club was a member of the Yakima Valley also the State Federation and supported all their programs, current events and book reviews, formal programs and a decided factor in planting the standard for the Community.

After or during World War II a number of women formed the "MINUTE WOMEN" organization which was known all over the state. These women were mostly those who had husbands, fathers, brothers or sons in the war service. One particular large dinner was held on the lawn of the Dr. Hedger home during the summer when women from all over the country took part. This organization was carried on for some time but finally died down as other activities arose to take up the members time.

In later years the women of the community have worked through churches and lodges to help those who are in need or sickness. Any worthy cause always has the support of the women folks both old time residents as well as new groups springing up since the Hanford project.

For many years the Women's Improvement Club, the Ladies Aid and the Highland Ladies Club with the Rebekah Lodge were the only women's organizations functioning. Now there are a goodly number.

Kiona-Benton Cemetery Association

Two small cemeteries, one across the railroad from where the old red warehouse used to stand about a quarter of a mile west of the Big Y warehouse, and the other about where the Elmer Storms houses are located were moved to the present cemetery which was incorporated in 1912. There are 11 unknown graves up there not marked and hardly a trace left of the actual grave spot. If anyone knows who these unknown graves might be, the Cemetery Association would surely appreciate having the names for their records.

The officers of the first Cemetery Board were as follows:

W. A. Kelso	Anna S. Hedger	G. H. King
F. S. Hedger	J. B. Palmer	T. B. Kendall
A. A. McAlpin	F. W. Rolph	Chas. Morgan
	J. H. Lowery	

Rules and By-Laws were formulated which have been carried on through the years.

Membership in the Association is limited to owners of graves or a lot and there have been times when the Association has been sorely tried to keep up with expenses of a caretaker and other outlays.

A re-organization of the Board took place on February 28th, 1930.

With the same By-laws new officers were elected as follows:

J. E. Brooks	Mrs. M. L. Conant	Mrs. Ada Bilyeu
T. B. Kendall	Arthur Johnson	Mrs. Louis Orcutt
John Dellere	Chas. Morgan	A. E. Scott
	L. B. Bailey	

Again in 1955 a new Board was formed with each of 12 local organizations having a member on the advisory Board. The new officers were as follows: Representing the Grange, Robert Wright; Community Club, Genevive Wiles; Rebekah Lodge, Laura Kendall; Chamber of Commerce, Mildred Rhoades; V.F.W. Aux., Inez Johnson; American Legion Aux., Lena Wilson; American Legion, Lacy Allen; Oddfellows, Fred Richmond; Garden Club, Maud Hartman; W.S.C.S., Fannie Morgan; Highland Ladies Club, Mrs. Krause, while Wilbert Snyder was chosen by the Farm Bureau.

Glenn Snyder was elected President; Grady Wilson, Vice President; Inez Johnson as Secretary and Treasurer while the three trustees were Laura Kendall, Joe Collins and Gertrude Sadler.

Service men buried here are as follows:

Acord, Walter	McBean, M. A.	Wilson, Meurnice
Hughes, Don	Ross, Theodore	Molinder, Swain
Maddox, Dewey	Thompson, Russell	Engelhart, Charles
Rhoades, Oliver	Rolph, O. J.	Lund, Hans P.
Snyder, John H.	Molinder, Bert	Pendleton, William
Deardorff, James	Clark, Rollo S.	Snyder, Ivan J.
Kennedy, Allison	Kennedy, Ward	Spencer, Daniel
Clark, Emmett	Ordway, Edgar	Baird, Micky
Johnson, A. F.	Smith, Fred L.	

CIVIC DRIVE FUND GOAL REACHED FOR CEMETERY FENCING

In May 1956 the Kiona-Benton Cemetery Association sincerely thanked each and every one who donated their money or labor to bring this project to a successful conclusion. We are especially glad that the help received made it possible for this to be finished in time for Memorial Day. The old fencing around the plot had seen its best days. The Grange started the drive by donating the small steel posts. Other organizations donating to the Cemetery fence as a body were the Highland Ladies Club, V.F.W. Auxiliary, W.S.C.S., Rebekah Lodge, American Legion and American Legion Auxiliary and the Odd-fellows Lodge. Two hundred seventy-four people gave individual donations.

Money came from as far east as Washington, D.C. and Virginia, Florida and Tennessee. Also north from Bremerton, Seattle and from all over the Yakima Valley and other parts of the state and Oregon from those who have kindred buried here.

Through Dick Cecil the fencing was purchased at a very reasonable price. Through Loin Wilson and Walt Jacobs, the county surveyors, Loren Barber, came down and surveyed out the rightful line of the Cemetery Plot.

Also, credit must be given the women who gave of their time to collect donations for the fencing, namely:

Mrs. Krause	Lena Wilson	Mrs. Wolfe
Fannie Morgan	Mazelle Houston	Mildred Engelhart
Inez Johnson	Laura Kendall	Sara Carpenter

Others donating time or materials were as follows:

Tom Little	Mr. Hamm	Mr. Deffenbaugh
Pollatch Yards	Otto Lorz	Wilbert Snyder
Glenn Snyder	Grady Wilson	Robert Richman

Bob Wright as Supervisor.

Our Benton City Cemetery is noted all over for its beauty. With the new fence in we hope to plant more flowers to make our Evergreen Cemetery truly a wonderland of beauty.

Officers of the Cemetery Association for 1959 are as follows:

President, Robert Wallace; Vice President, Mildred Engelhart; Sec.-Treas., Inez Johnson, and Trustees, Robert Wallace, Maude Hartman, Fannie Morgan.

A parking strip has been completed on the north side of the plot and it is hoped to have the east side finished and graded in the same manner as the inside road space is not adequate for many cars parking.

THE GRANGE

On Friday evening, December 5th, 1913 a number of citizens in the vicinity of Kiona and Benton City met in the assembly room at the old school-house looking toward the organization of a Grange.

A Mr. Davis of Prosser and U. S. Case of Rattlesnake were present to explain the aims and objects of the Grange Order. After considerable discussion a motion was made by W. C. Warren that those present proceed to organize a Grange and that the name of it should be Kiona-Benton Grange. The motion was properly made, seconded and received an unanimous vote.

Officers elected were . . . Master, L. L. Todd; Overseer, J. M. Warren; Lecturer, Mrs. A. E. Whan; Steward, C. A. Hartman; Treasurer, A. E. Whan and the Secretary, Mrs. L. L. Todd.

Forty-two members signed the charter of which some of the now more familiar names were . . . T. B. and Dora Kendall, Chas. and Roy Morgan, Porter Hartman, W. M. and Mary Scott, Mr. and Mrs. Maston Roop, Mrs. A. L. Henson, Doctor and Mrs. F. S. Hedger and J. P. Triesch.

The minutes of the early years reveal that the Grange was very active. Many times mention is made of ten or more new members being initiated. Ice cream and box socials, chicken-pie suppers were given to raise funds to purchase a piano. Literary programs were enjoyed and mention is made of a debate, "Resolved that fat wives are more satisfactory than lean ones."

Meetings were held in the Benton City Hall, long since torn down and a leaking roof finally prompted them to move to the old Kennedy building. Lights cost them \$1.00 per month which was evidently the only rent paid. Silver drills at each meeting netted from 11 cents to 24 cents. Oh, my.

Carloads of feed were procured by the Grange for purchase by stock and chicken farmers also carload lots of flume lumber, and both wood and coal. All were sold at cost and took place during 1914 and 1915.

The Grange continued working for the general welfare of the farmers and spearheaded many local civic programs one of which was Rural Free Delivery. During the more prosperous 20's the membership decreased until there were but 23 paid up members. Then when the depression struck in the early 30's people began to again take an interest in the Grange.

It offered a means of low cost entertainment for the entire family where all could go and enjoy the potluck dinners with dancing and cards after the meeting. Several community Thanksgiving dinners took place and large crowds attended.

Many young people joined and a baseball team was organized. This team held the Eastern Washington Championship for 2 successive years and played for the State Championship in Seattle winning 2nd place.

Kiona-Benton Grange worked to establish the Public Utility District Law, then undertook to form a Fire Protection District. The idea met with opposition twice but on the 3rd try armed with petitions full of signatures the committee gained approval of the County Commissioners. And our present Fire District No. 2 was formed.

A few years back the Grange started the Cemetery beautification program by furnishing the small steel posts for a fence around the plot. The idea was postponed for some time till in 1956 when the Kiona-Benton Cemetery Association furnished the large steel posts and a number of women took the field and collected the money to pay for the fencing. The Cemetery Association themselves paid the two men who built the fence.

Space is too limited to set forth much of the accomplishments done in the name of the Grange. But its donations to worthy causes have been more than generous. Boy Scouts, 4-H Clubs, Washington Children's Home, all have been and are receiving each year large donations as well as the Polio Drive, Heart Fund and the Red Cross.

Neither does space permit us to name the many fine men and women who have given of themselves down through the years to keep the Grange a living, democratic and freedom loving organization.

THE BENTON CITY HIGHLANDS

Originally the Benton Highlands acres were irrigated by water from a pumping station housed in a brick building on the river about a quarter of a mile east of the Corral Creek Siding on the O.W.R.&N. Railway. When the last extension of the Sunnyside Canal was completed water flowed to the acres belonging to the Calhoun, Denny and Ewing Company the same way to Benton City and round-about territory by gravity flow.

By virtue of its being part of a railroad grant, the country adjacent to Benton City was withheld from settlement for a quarter of a century. The Northern Pacific Railroad constructed the Kiona-Benton Canal which was acquired, together with two thousand acres of land by a company from Seattle, Calhoun, Denny and Ewing. A section of land on the Highlands was planted to apples with peach fillers.

In the beginning 57 members were initiated into the Oddfellow Lodge the first year. Nov. 23, 1912 the hall was wired for electricity. During the late winter of 1913 and spring 1914, Mrs. Inez Johnson's piano was used by the Lodges. Since Mrs. Johnson wanted her piano on March 11, 1914 the Rebekah sisters voted \$50.00 toward the purchase of a piano for Lodge use.

Many ice cream socials, dances, picnic parties were the means for raising money toward the Cemetery fence. Visitors from many other Lodges were frequent sometimes bringing all the refreshments.

In 1945 the old Hall was sold to Mark Krezan (which has since burned down) for \$500.00 and the modern Hall for the Oddfellows and Rebekah Lodges



Sagebrush lands in the Benton Project north of Benton City

for this area was Dedicated in 1947. Built of concrete blocks the building houses the main assembly room with rest rooms for men and women, while the kitchen (all electric) and dining room in the basement provide room for many guests.

Just to show what that company was up against in the beginning before the acres came under gravity flow . . . hauling water for fruit trees . . . From 3,000 to 5,000 gallons of water are being hauled to soak down the trees now being set out by this Seattle Company. The flumes and pipes for the irrigating of lands are rapidly being finished so as to have water at the opening of the irrigation season.

The corner of the original 640 acres of land set to fruit trees is at the Cemetery corner, continuing north and west with roads as boundary lines. The huge orchard was divided into 10 acre tracts, and sold to people from all walks of life from Seattle, Bremerton shipyard and other coast cities. The representatives of the early settlers were varied as to work and profession. There were one or more pipefitters, plumbers, carpenters, blacksmiths, mineworkers, real estate operator, architects, draftsman, teacher, orchestra musician and many other trades people.

The persuasive and glowing picture of a wonderful life was painted to the prospective buyers by these real estate orators. "Retire for life to your 10 acres of apple orchard, sit under the trees and watch the apples grow."

Unfortunately the days of big money in apple growing history in the upper Yakima Valley was already on the wane. The former inexperienced city men when it came to fruit growing soon discovered they had never had to work so hard. Coming to a semi-desert, sage brush country with frequent blinding dust storms, living in quickly constructed cabins and shacks, hauling water from a community well, was quite a change from their old accustomed modern city life. Most of the men liked the independent life, but the women were discontented for obvious reasons.

From one spring to the next they soon found apple growing was a continuous round of work. Pruning, picking up brush, irrigating and spraying throughout the spring and summer. In the fall . . . making apple boxes, harvesting the apples and hauling the fruit to the warehouses in the town of Benton City.

When the apple trees in the Highlands came into full bearing most any one could see a string of two trucks abreast loaded high with apple boxes filled to the brim, all the way from the White Warehouse (now the old Rustic Theater Building) clear north of Hess's Inn waiting each night during harvest season to unload at the warehouse receiving door. The K. Lane Johnson warehouse kept over 60 to 80 sorters and packers busy besides the receiving and unloading crews. Some apple packing was done at the old red ware-

house west of the white warehouse along the railroad track, but it was not till the Big Y happened along and built their brick warehouse on the main street of town that competition became keen. Many loads of both cherries and peaches have been shipped out of the community by trucks. But the Big Y has always had the bulk of the asparagus growers trade. All this fruit raised in the vicinity has meant not only a living for the producer but as a blessing to local and transient labor likewise.

The fruit buying warehouse companies sorted, packed and sold the apples. Orchardists received money for their crops the following spring, whatever the fruit buyers desired to give them, deducting of course money for materials and hired labor used during the growing season. The apple picking, sorting and packing of the fruit as well as warehouse work was a source of income to many people to tide them over the winter months as there was no other payroll nearby.

Each year the growers sunk deeper in debt with the high cost of raising apples, low prices for their products together with paying off their mortgages. Eventually many people lost their places and moved away to more productive fields, others pulled out their trees, planted other crops and some replanted to peach trees and other soft fruits. Those who raised alfalfa and other crops had wonderful yields per acre the first years, but fertilizing was unknown on a large scale and gradually the land became unproductive from being leached by spray.

During the second World War the population of Benton City and surrounding country dwindled down to a new low. Young men and boys joined the armed forces by choice or draft. Others left for war work and the cities. Then out of the blue came news of something big and secretive concerning this area (The Hanford Project). People from all over the UNITED STATES swarmed to the group of small towns overflowing to Benton City. Work was easy to get and paid exorbitant wages. Rumors floated around the Government would eventually take over Benton City caused owners of property to be uneasy though they were well aware no one here would share the wealth. Gradually things calmed down and as a rule this vicinity is now cut up in small acreages owned by many people with jobs bringing in steady incomes from the Hanford Project.

HIGHLAND LADIES CLUB

When the Benton City Highlands were sparsely settled social life was almost non-existent. The double duty horse was not always available during the week days. July 12th, 1916, almost forty-three years ago, a number of women met for the purpose of organizing a Club.

"The object to be in promoting interest in social life and the betterment of community interest."

The enthused and active women started immediately to live up to their objective. At the next meeting the men folks were asked to attend a future get-together to discuss school matters. The date and time were set. What chance did the men really have? The gathering acted on the Cemetery question to assist the Oddfellows with improving the newly started plot, at the present site, which is now admired for the beautiful lawn, shrubs, perennial plants and lovely Linden trees.

The members became proficient in Parliamentary Laws, subscribing to the Current Events magazine, procuring a circulating Library where books were received and returned via a freight train. They also started the ball rolling for a Rural Free Delivery service by writing to the Post Master General. Petitions were circulated for the 100 required signatures. Eventually after five years and plenty of red tape, Rural Free Delivery became a reality.

In 1918 the Club investigated costs and prospects of securing electricity from the Pacific Power and Light Company. Each home owner was required to pay \$50.00 cash before this was acted upon and the electricity was served to each applicant. With the help of several Highland men this mission was accomplished.

RAISING MONEY

The Club started to make money at once. The first ice cream social netted the Ladies \$6.30 since the cost of the ice cream was \$10.00 and the express charges shipping it in was \$1.60. From this modest beginning the treasury was ever replenished with the popular ice cream social. Many dances were given on holidays or whenever there was a money emergency. The social life centered around the largest building on the Highlands, which was situated then on Lane 2, known as "Whan's Packing Shed." It served for the socials, dances, card parties also Sunday School, even for a funeral. Only during apple harvest, the shed was not available for the people were all busy as bees at that time.

A kitchen Band Concert given in the school gymnasium in 1921 was a decided success enriching the treasury with \$120.00.

THE HOT LUNCH PROJECT

The hot Lunch project began December 9, 1929 with Mrs. Whitehead as chairman of the committee and Mrs. Lund as cook. It was a struggling and disheartening proposition for years and dwindled down but was revived November 1937 by the W.P.A. (Work Project) Administration who agreed to pay the cooks and furnish surplus commodities.

Food was solicited from the community children and parents responding well to call for donations. Some children paid in cash for their meals, others with donated food, but those unable to do either were welcome to receive lunch as the hot lunches was primarily for their benefit. Several people in the community gave cash contributions for the lunch fund.

Soon the W.P.A. ran short of funds to pay the cooks but the club continued to serve. The cook, Mrs. Richmond gave her services free. When the lunch funds were exhausted the women sold magazines, contributed cash and gave a dance. Several of the women canned several hundred quarts of tomatoes during the summer at the school-house. Mrs. Agnes Johanson reported after one year of the lunch program 248 quarts of tomatoes were donated . . . seven cases of tomatoes were bought from the store . . . 15 sacks of potatoes, 300 lbs. of beans and 200 lbs. of meat used during the winter.

The Hot Lunch finally stayed in the clear and in 1942 the Highland Ladies withdrew their sponsorship from the project turning \$85.79 over to the school board.

In 1923 a cook book was compiled by these enterprising women and printed by the Kennewick Printing Company. Advertising was solicited from merchants from towns within the radius of thirty miles, netting the club the sum of \$597.50. While there were several hundred of these excellent cook books sold, some of them are still available. Food sales were quite popular money making projects in later years of the club as all the housewives vied in putting their best foot forward with their special food dainties.

Community Enterprises

Meetings with the County Commissioners resulted in improved roads on the Benton Highlands. Costs of posts, the painting and placing of signs on roads were paid for by the club. Community meetings were held to discuss school affairs and school elections.

Many times during the years gifts of money amounting to \$50.00 were given when some misfortune occurred to anyone in the community. Money was donated to help buy scales to weigh school children. During the year 1933 the club went on record as demanding a full time County Nurse and sent letters to the proper authorities requesting movies with higher morals. \$10.00 was donated to buy a service Flag for the community. A silk funeral curtain was given to the Methodist Church as a Memorial for Mrs. A. L. Henson.

Generous donations were given to the Orthopedic Hospital, Children's Home, Veterans of Foreign Wars, Near East Relief, Starving European Children, Red Cross and T.B. Association. Painting of the Church and provision of a Community Christmas Tree every year. Also each year at Christmas the club took an active part in providing for under privileged children with clothing, food, candy and nuts as well as gifts. On December 1934 the club supplied 27 needy families.

Welfare work during the depression years was in the capable hands of Mrs. A. L. Henson. She was untiring in her efforts to provide clothing, shoes and bedding for those who needed help. She asked for cash donation from the club whenever the need was great.

In 1930 the Highland Ladies club was instrumental in having the stop signs placed at road intersections. In 1934 and 1935 the club sponsored a pre-school clinic for children. The Ladies Aid of Benton City received \$100.00 toward work on the parsonage. There were many more activities and contributions for projects during the years not listed. To read forty-two years of minutes in itself becomes a project.

Activities

Activities of the Highland Ladies Club were many and varied. They joined the Valley and State Federations of Women's Clubs also they became permanent representatives of the County Health Council and took active part in the County extension work. They sponsored a county contest for Girls and Boys clubs, while during the war the club set aside a day to do Red Cross Work.

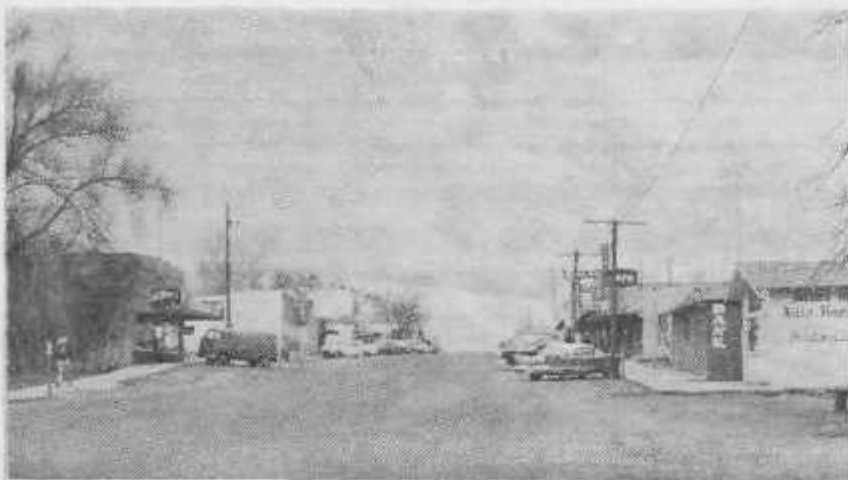
The proceeds from an election lunch was turned over to the Red Cross to fill service kits after helping to make the kits for boys going overseas. The club bought three War Bonds. They spent a day cleaning the community park and furthermore bought and planted two trees in the new Skookum Park. Trees were also planted on the present school grounds under the auspices of Kiona-Benton Improvement club and Highland Ladies club.

The husbands party was an annual, lavish affair so following the banquet original, humorous plays of a kidding and personal nature were immensely enjoyed. The rehearsing was almost as much fun as the actual production. A silver tea was given in 1941 to celebrate the 25th anniversary of the club. Elaborate preparations were made and invitations sent to former members who had moved to other places. A letter from a charter member (Mrs. Frazer) from California was received and quote in part . . .

"I can hardly realize that twenty-five years ago a little group met at the home of Mrs. Whan one evening to form what is known as the Highland Ladies club. We were all very enthusiastic not having much pleasure or money. We all liked the club meetings and enjoyed getting together. Meeting at the members homes every other Thursday if there was no other transportation WE WALKED. We had a business meeting. After a fine lunch than one fine talk fest which did us all good.

"We were an ambitious club nothing too great for us to undertake. After a hard and long debate we always made the grade some way. I can remember a few of our undertakings. Dances in the old Packing Shed, ice cream and cake socials, card parties, fashion shows, apron sales. And the cook book we published . . . that famous cook book . . . in fact the best cook book I ever looked into.

"Whenever the time came and help was needed for a worthy cause, if any one was in trouble and sorrow the club was always ready and willing to lend a helping hand. Now we have the younger generation to carry on. The modern youth of today are wonderful, have vision and desire to do things and go ahead. The stimulating and compelling interest these club ladies had in their community betterment goal brought tangible and satisfying results."



Main street in Benton City

OUR TOWN OF BENTON CITY - 1909

Benton County was formed from the east portion of Yakima and Klickitat Counties and named Benton after Senator Thomas Hart Benton of Missouri. It is surprising they did not pick an Indian name for it although many Missourians have helped settle up the state. Someone might be able to figure out the connection between a U.S. Missouri Senator and a western county with so many Indian names very descriptive of the scenery on tap.

On March 8th, 1905, a measure was passed creating the county of Benton with Dr. F. S. Hedger as Coroner, and Al McAlpin as Poll Tax Collector. On March 10th, 1911 W. A. Dudley became the owner and publisher of the Benton County News at Benton City. The new town on the Oregon-Washington and Navigation Railway was fostering a boom for the men and women eager to own a home of their own. The town was 67 miles east of what was then North Yakima. Later on the north was discarded and remains plain Yakima to this day. Then too the town was 23 miles west of Kennewick. It was also located one mile north in distance from a railroad station namely Kiona on the Northern Pacific Railway affording excellent facilities to large markets both east and west.

Eastern capitalists were interested in Benton City from the start with E. H. Harriman as managing director for the railroad. It was his dream to have this town become an east-west north-south division point hence the depot was built accordingly with large office space throughout. A large turntable was built about a quarter of a mile east of the depot but before all the plans could be carried out Mr. Harriman died but his widow and the directors of his companies did not see the future for this project that he did so while the railroad work went on some heart was taken from the endeavor. Here is an item gleaned from the "Benton County News" of Benton City, Friday, March 10th, 1911.

"R. Burns, agent here for the O.W.R.&N. Railway announced a SPECIAL excursion would be run from Benton City two days before the regular run over the entire division March 21, 1911."

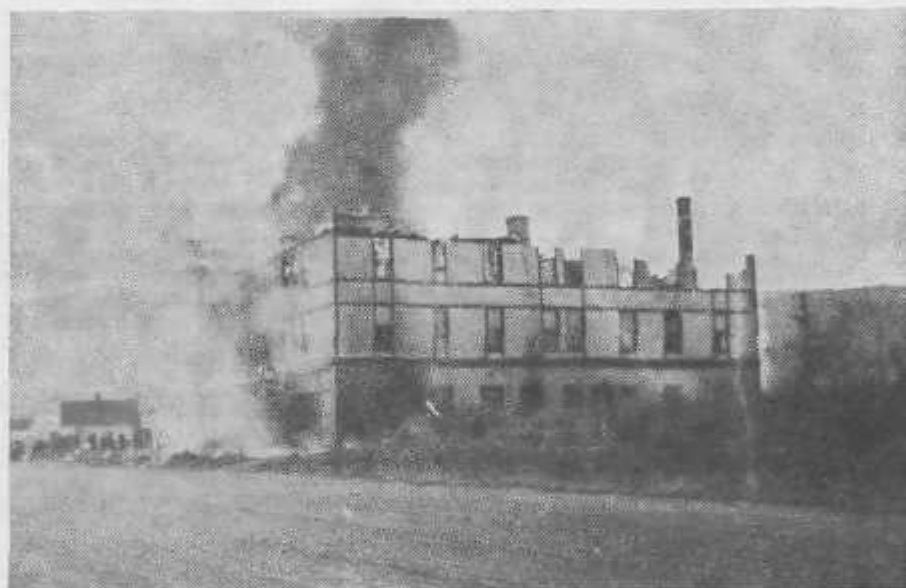
It was in the spring of 1910 that persistent rumors of a new town being developed down in the lower valley began to take shape and prove a reality. F. A. Wiggins, Vice-President of the Washington Nursery Company in Toppenish was the first Secretary of the Sunnyside Irrigation District so the whole office force was acquainted with most of the details of what was expected to come to pass. Orders were pouring in for Nursery

stock for this new farming region at a great rate, mostly commercial stuff, namely apples, peaches, pears and cherries in large quantities. The new townsite was to be set to fruit.

It was February 4th, 1897 that David McAlpin received the patent on his homestead a little less than 160 acres which later was included in the Benton City townsite. The papers were filed in the Yakima County records by I. A. Pugh, acting Secretary and L. Q. C. Lamar, Recorder of the General Land Office. Mr. McAlpin had five sons namely Columbus B., Alford A., Don, Ralph and Lloyd.

Doctor Hedger, the local physician ministered to everyone's ills but the hardest blow he ever received was when Mr. Johnson had to tell him the telegraph operator at Gibbon had called the Klona operator that Frank Hedger had drowned on a duck hunting trip close to Gibbon. Before then if anyone was lost in the river Frank Hedger was always called to dive for the body, since he was an expert swimmer. But Frank did not drown. He was weighted down with his heavy boots full of water after the boat overturned and his vest heavy with shells, he saw he could not make shore so his heart failed him.

One of the pleasures of those long ago days when school was held in what is now the Community Hall, given to the people here by Mrs. Prowell, was the debating problems in the programs. Everyone could go.



Benton City Hotel burning in 1926

Traveling men from all over made it a point to stop the night at the Benton City Hotel which was built at the beginning of the townsite boom. They spoke of the friendly atmosphere, the comfortable beds, and the especially good food served. S. J. Harrison and L. L. Todd, co-owners of the three story building took an active part in all civic affairs of the community while managing the Benton Land Company. The three-story hotel called the lifeline of our town saddened the whole countryside when it burned to the ground. It was such a pity for it was a well-built place to be proud of. To begin it cost over \$30,000 to build but could not be erected today for less than \$80,000.



Depot and office building of the O.W.R. & N. Co. at Benton City

Argus Hughes first operated his general store next to the track until a fire swept the wooden building off the map. The railroad spur still remains along the main track whereby Mr. Hughes often shipped in groceries by the carload. Mr. Hughes then built the cement structure which in 1942 was purchased by the A. F. Johnsons when Mr. and Mrs. Hughes moved to Spokane. The trade name was changed to "The Benton Trading Co. which Mrs. Johnson sold to the Marihughes in 1953 after the death of Mr. Johnson in 1951. When the P. U. D. took over the old P.P.&L. electricity lines, Mrs. Johnson was their representative in the Benton Trading Co. store for nearly six years. This business is now being taken care of at the City Hall, on Main Street.

For many years the orange colored busses ran through our town, hence to Whitstran and on by way of Prosser to the coast. When the new state road was put in south of the river the main route was then changed to miss Benton City. When the Greyhound service took over Mr. Johnson persuaded the officials to allow the busses to return here.

L. L. Todd was the first Postmaster in Benton City followed by Mr. Brewster then A. E. Scott, later by O. B. Gwin and lastly by Howard Grending. Their office space is comfortable and well arranged.

To date there have been three adults drown in the Yakima River and nearby ditches. Mr. Paton who was rafting railroad ties down the river, Mr. Eddy and Bill Pendleton both from down on the lower river road. Four young people, Gale Hanson, a nephew of Oscar Hanson, Roy Cole, Martha Pogue and one of the Ashley boys. Four small youngsters around 2 to 3 years of age, a baby at the McNulty water wheel, a little Green boy whose family was only here a short time, also a 2 year old child in the Irrigation Canal below Legion Heights and the recent tragic event in the Webley child lost in the Chandler Canal. The three young people were swimming.

People as a rule ridicule the old-timers now if one so much as tells the fact there used to be from 2 to 3 foot of snow most every winter which always laid on a spell and oftentimes the temperature was way below zero. Since the changing of the Japan Current we seem to really have a "Banana Belt" to enjoy, though it is a sore trial when late freezes kill off the soft fruits that mean so much to this community.

In the winter of 1918 Archie Prior had several thousand head of sheep in the Horse Heaven Hills grazing until it was time to bring them down in the valley for winter hay feeding and lambing. Lo and behold almost overnight came a snowstorm and it never let up until measuring around three feet

on the level. With no way to get hay up the hill for the ewes, all that could be done was to haul grain in sacks up on the backs of pack horses which was done for several days. The herders were well-nigh distracted for the sheep must have water soon or die. Luckily the Good Lord took a hand and a Chinook Wind blew up to lower the snow line enough so with pack horses a trail was broken down the roads to the river at Kiona. The sheep went wild as they sniffed the water and piled up over each other for a drink. The next day the band was trailed to the A. F. Johnson ranch at Corral Creek for winter feeding. It was simply a miracle they had that one day to get the sheep out of Horse Heaven to the valley as it started snowing again, and never stopped until about three feet in depth again which whiteness laid on the ground for some time. These deep snows were the order of wintertime for many years. This last winter is the first time in 45 years in this community that there has been no snow.

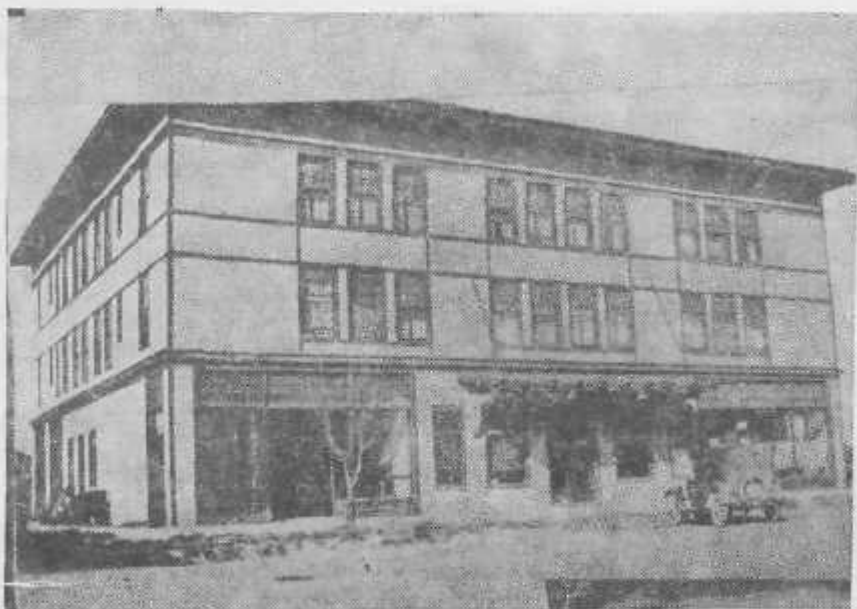
Over 50 000 head of sheep used to be pastured around here on the late crop of alfalfa. Out on the A. F. Johnson homestead on Corral Creek, down on the Prior ranch north near the curve of the Horn eastward, and across the river at the Earl Rowley farm it was a common occurrence in the late fall to have the sheep men take over winter feeding and spring lambing until the flocks were speeded on the way to the mountain ranges for summer grazing. Always in the early spring the shearing crews were very busy with about six weeks work for a crew of men.



Mrs. Anna Prowell
donor of Community Hall

It was not till the summer of 1914 that the new paved state road a blessing indeed was built heading west from Benton City through Whitstran to Prosser. When the last extension of the Sunnyside Canal went through, a soldier settlement drawing took place besides every other section of land beyond Corral Creek was the railroad land and put up for sale by the Northern Pacific Railway. One drawing was held in the fall of 1915 another in the spring of 1916.

The A. F. Johnson family went homesteading out on the west bank of Corral Creek. To the south they had Joe Triesch for a neighbor. On the west was Wallace Blake and Ella Drinkhawn. To the north was Len Giles



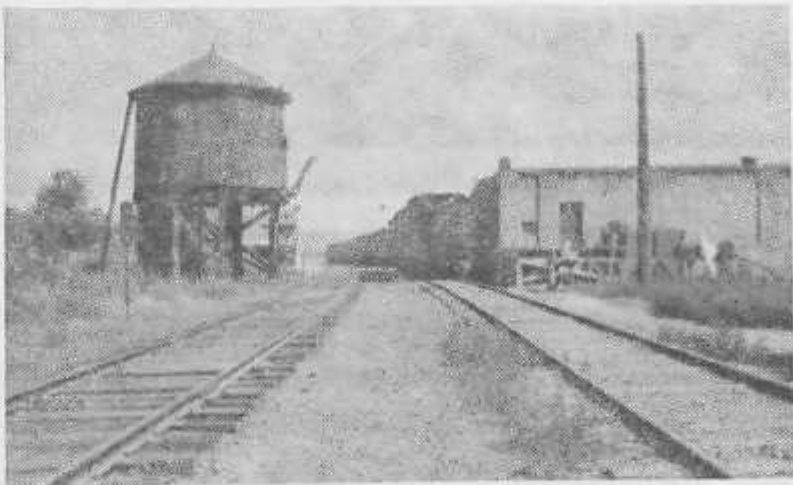
Fire destroyed the 48-room Benton City hotel Nov. 30. It was built in 1909 at a cost of \$35,000.

and Ed Lambrecht while across the deep canyon on the east was C. T. Peterson. Mr. Johnson had the selling of the alternate sections of land for the N.P. Later there were 22 families residing across Corral Creek way. Telephones soon brought the spoken word. All of the men over there combined forces to grade and put into use the Railroad siding at Corral Creek where tons and tons of the finest hay produced was shipped out.

Among the names of the early Highland settlers who got water for their needs from the old brick pumping plant near Corral Creek were the Conklins, Whans, Hensons, and Drinkhams, Bensons and Gibsons. Also the Andersons, Knute Hills, Scott and Grady Wilson, Thompsons, Morins and Molinders, Wings, Williams and Snyders, Frasers, Morgans, Christiansons and Petersons.

The boy scouts of Troop 139 were always a source of pleasure to those of us who kept close contact with their meetings for a good many mothers knew full well how the boys earned their merit badges; besides their scout training was very valuable to them in war time when called to shift for themselves in more ways than one when they were overseas. So states a mother from Easton whose son was a boy scout. When shot down over Germany in the war they had to walk with a wounded comrade for many miles to the toe of the Italian boot. Hungry all the time they tried to sleep by day and travel by night. This lad stole a chicken but had to carry it for five days till they were safe to build a campfire and cook it. They were simply ravenous. Scout training surely pays.

Earl Williams father homesteaded up on the Highlands north of town. For awhile Pete and Hattie Martinn had a picture show where one got in for 10c and could stay as long as you liked. They also operated a restaur-



Union Pacific water tank at Benton City

ant until they moved out of the Highlands. Bob and Elna Mathews also were in business for a good many years. Frank Clements was in the grocery business for awhile and Mrs. Weir had a drug store just above where the Borden building now stands. For long years the railroad did a thriving business until the large truck outfits began grabbing the loads with both long and short hauls. And in 1957 even the passenger service on the Union Pacific was finally discontinued.

For several years there was great enthusiasm regarding the possible finding of oil on the northern slopes of the Rattlesnake Range. Some gas was found but not oil so after digging many thousand of feet in their test holes and losing plenty of money the project was finally abandoned. Most of the oil crews were shifted to the Chinook, Montana fields. When Mrs. Inez Johnson was visiting Pierce and Sara Reeves (nee Sara Hartman) at Chinook four years ago they took her out to see some 50 producing wells pumping both day and night. The real oily stuff was coming from ground looking much like our soil here. It was a sight to long remember.

Benton City has had some exceptionally fine baseball players. Notable among them being Forest Jensen (nicknamed Lefty) who won his spurs to fame with his strong wrists acquired by milking cows for Eric Anderson two winters while finishing school here. Lefty went on to the big leagues, first playing with Pittsburg, but now he has a haberdashery store in Kansas City, Missouri. Jae Carroll could almost always without fail bring in a home run in nearly every game. Other fine players were Dod and Harry Benson, Free Gibson, Oral and Carl Montgomery, with Leo and Irving Larson. We were also very proud of our basketball teams, both boys and girls. To show our community spirit when the basketball boys got to go to Seattle in the tournament for the finals everybody and his brother went to cheer the team on their way when the train pulled out of Kiona. A much larger crowd turned out to welcome the boys home even though they lost out over there.

Lots of funny things happened when the pioneers on Corral Creek were in a manner of speaking scratching gravel for a living. A. F. Johnson had plenty of corn and feed for his stock with running springs of water flowing free both winter and summer. All this pasture of plenty his old cow scorned as not good enough. Someway she maneuvered through the fence one day and sauntering up to the nearest neighbor's house got thirsty and proceeded to fall in their cistern trying to get a drink of water. It took six men half a day to bail her out.

The poultry business flourished on many farms. The big Co-op truck and trailer coming in twice a week loaded with feed and taking out eggs and saleable stock. Bee pollenization of cherries and apples was first on the program every spring. The Silverbow Honey Company truck came from the coast to buy the Yakima Valley Honey Company's wax and honey products every fall besides a lot of honey was sold or traded for what have you locally.

Oscar Hanson started his barber shop here in May 1924 and his wife came in September of 1925. Leone, as she is known to everyone, was the telephone operator here until the dial system went into effect in 1949. Benton City was incorporated in June 1949 with Oscar serving as Mayor from 1945 till 1954.

Ex-Mayor Oscar M. Hanson is known as a fluent conversationalist though with poor terminal facilities. One moonlight summer night he had attended a lodge meeting in Kennewick and had not arrived at home by the wee small hours. Leone's wifely anxiety increased by the hour as the clock struck two and three, and still no Oscar. She finally called the police department in Kennewick asking if there were any accident or criminal reports on her missing spouse. They immediately put a member of the force on a survey of the town and found Oscar and his friend Bill Green sitting cosily in the car discussing Masonic philosophy in the moonlight.

This history draws a veil over the four a.m. homecoming.

Yesterday our community was a region of farms and a fruit-growing center. We still have some of these but since the coming of the Atomic Project, it is becoming more and more an area of small homes. What will it be like in the tomorrows to come? It has been predicted that the day will come when the Yakima River will be dotted with big businesses enterprises all the way from its confluence with the Columbia to the city of Yakima, and naturally homes of all descriptions will follow these ventures.

Quite a bit of rivalry went on between two factions in the County with a good many voters wanting the Courthouse located in the center of the County at Benton City. S. J. Harrison and L. L. Todd donated the land in anticipation of the new building. Said land was a stretch of alfalfa with a good-sized mound of dirt on the property where Fannie Morgan's house now stands. On a Halloween night pranksters, not all of them under 21 years of age took an outdoor privy belonging to Mrs. Weir, the druggist, and placed it on this mound with a big sign reading . . . "The home of the future county courthouse." Though most folks were in high favor of the location, still the building was altogether too small as the seating capacity was only for two. The courthouse went to Prosser.

At another time pranksters launched a large lumber wagon on top of the school-house. How they raised it so high no one was able to determine. It was anybody's guess. Of course, the boys were not talking because they were innocent but one was heard to opine . . .

"The dam thing came down a lot faster than it went up."

Milford Roop, a graduate of the local school was probably the teacher who taught here the longest period of time, 23 years in all. Many graduates have made their mark in the educational field, every annual tells a tale of what they have accomplished.

During the 1920's and the 1930's keen enjoyment was derived from the local ball games. Sunday afternoon games were played either on the local school diamond or at neighboring towns. When A. F. Johnson or Vic Heberlein from Kennewick walked out on the mound and yelled, "Play Ball" excitement always reached a fever pitch for Benton City rooters never once let the home team down cheering themselves hoarse.

At one time efforts were put forth and funds were raised to have a swimming pool yet somehow it never materialized.

It is hard to say when George Porter first came to this area. He and his partner, Martin, were always on the job when any cement or flume work was to be done. George, as the story goes, made a cleaning in Alaska. By his appearance no one would agree. He went around with old raggedy clothes with his shoes often laced up with baling wire and he had patches both



Grading crews at work leveling streets in Benton City, Yakima Valley

front and back. Everybody liked George. Somewhere in his travels he had lost an eye. He was never complaining, just a "Hail fellow, well met."

Once he had gone into an attorney's office in Prosser and left his old ragged coat hanging over a chair. The office girl took it down and hung it in the basement on a nail. Four months later he was in to see the attorney and casually asked for his coat. The girl went down and got it and brought it to the two men. George reached over in front of the lawyer and pulled a roll of greenbacks out of one of the pockets. They swiftly counted the money which was over \$400.00.

The bus stop was for some years located at the Benton Trading Co. store. When the big boom was on at Hanford two busses came through the Horn daily besides four others took the regular route through the town. Mr. Johnson could read the tariffs and sold tickets locally as well as long distance points. It was with deep regret Benton City travelers saw the doom of no bus coming in as usual but it did not pay the Greyhound to continue. In 1957 train service was also discontinued which likewise was a loss to this area. Once four passenger trains daily stopped at the Union Pacific station here.

Few people know that once we had a very important personage in our midst. He was visiting someone up on the Highlands in the summer. He was the captain of the boat that took General Douglas MacArthur off Corregidor on that eventful rush trip when the General was ordered by the government to leave there before the Japs arrived. He talked about the nerve-racking voyage from the Rock and that the General scarcely spoke a word on the whole trip to Australia. Also A. F. Johnson had an army sergeant helping with the bees one summer who escaped with 15 others in a long-boat when the Japs were getting too close for comfort. This man had command of a craft packed tight with men wanting to get away from there any old way, just to get going in. In this small boat with 16 men aboard to start only three of them were still breathing when they were picked up by a freighter three days out of Australia.

Dwaine Shoemaker was the only man from the western states to be chosen to go on the Governments Geophysical year program in 1957. He went as meteorologist. They were gone exactly one year and part of the time Dwaine was contacted by Herman Pass on his wave length. Mr. Pass lives on the Benton Highlands and Dwaine is finishing up one year of college at Cheney. Ruth, his wife, works in the office of the college.

To rock gathering pickers there is a place one cannot go to now but before the Government took over the land on the northern slopes of the Rattlesnake Range it was a delight to inspect this rock lovers paradise. On seven hills each more than an acre in extent along the Cold Creek road between the E. F. Benson ranch and Hanford are so many beautiful rock specimens that it is hard to leave any and which to choose to carry away. Small rocks, medium size rocks and now and then some too heavy for a woman to lug away. All shapes, all colors, and once in awhile there is one with all colors of the rainbow which with the rain falling on them enhances the beauty. These rocky hills are gold mine range but inaccessible now to the public. Some day who knows the road may be open once more.



Dem Bees Am A Swamin'

During the summer of 1941 A. F. Johnson decided when he brought his bees back from pollenizing the Wenatchee and Chelan, as well as the upper Yakima Valley orchards of apples and cherries that he'd try out the idea of placing 100 strong swarms of bees on the old Cold Creek road north of the Rattlesnake Range where the purple and white sage flourished abundantly on the slopes of the mountain. It was a lovely sight with the sage in bloom like nothing else blooms so profusely it could only have been created by the hand of God. Putting the bees out there was done to see if there would be nectar in paying quantities as is gathered in large amounts in California. Since there was no water for miles and miles away in any direction it was necessary to haul water daily for the insects placing it in long troughs for their consumption. Shortly the Johnsons began to notice there were two surveying crews working with their instruments inspecting the rolling acres. Having been in the army after the Phillipine War and knowing something of this work, Mr. Johnson soon tumbled to the fact something out of the ordinary was going on for these men to be putting in so much time surveying these desert acres day after day. The family took their lunch for they had to hunt for swarms hanging on the sagebrush, having decamped from the Mother colonies each day. These surveyors began coming by the beeyard stopping to chat and often eating their lunches during their noon hour. No amounts

of hints prevailed on these men to give out the slightest information as to who or why they were so very interested in this back country far from a railroad. It turned out afterwards they had no idea what the score was any more than we did. At home Mr. Johnson would sit in a deep study often scratching his head in deep bewilderment saying . . . "What can it be? The Government has to be at the back of it whatever is going on out there. It is something awful, awful big but I can't figure it out."

Yes . . . it was something big. We had known for around two years that something big was in the wind until the news broke loose and almost overnight a big camp blossomed forth where Legion Heights is now located and people began pouring in here from all over the United States to work at the Atomic Project. Folks away from here knew a sight more about what was going on than we home bodles smack up against the job. Transients came in by the scores hunting a place to squat and sleep and some were critical that good places to camp were not available as the Government had promised them. It was nothing to have your coal stored for the winter gradually disappear and your tools taken. Even your potatoes would be dug from the field you could take in stride or leave it was a matter of no concern to a lot people.

When picnics and various gatherings used to be held down in Alvon Scotts willow park for two years in succession with over hundreds of people present for the occasion . . . Mrs. Edith Wallace drew the best prize for having the largest family present, her eight children.

UNDER THE ROZA CANAL

Right after the turn of the century, what is now known as the East Roza was homesteaded. Only one place is still in the original family name — George L. Vetter.

The first homesteaders out there were as follows:

George L. Vetter	John Dellere	Mr. Forsyth
Nick Geizan	Miss King	Loren Besse
Herb Ice	Mr. Orcutt	Lew Chamberlain

The first well dug for domestic water was on the Vetter place which Loren Besse, Nick Geizan and John Dellere helped to dig.

After two wars and some 50 years later the dream of a few people came true, the blessing of irrigation to this sun-baked land. After the first homesteaders left the area for many long years the land was just a stamping ground for sheepmen grazing their flocks.

In 1935 the Roza Canal and Roza Division was started for the Lower Yakima Valley. Completion of the main canal in 1947 had settlers already waiting and willing to commence work on new homes. The pumping plant was in operation for the 1950 growing season.

With a 3,460 acreage and an elevation of from 750' to 1250' in this area, the Roza produces a wide variety of crops. With a long growing season and an adequate amount of irrigation water most all crops yield above average. The Roza started with about six families and today there are about 30 families living on acreages. After ten years there has been very little change except for the need of a larger school bus each year. Some of today's farm owners are:

George Hanson	S. S. Meacham	Fred Newton
Bernie Shaw	Ed Gerrick	Oliver Dean
Jack Flett	Mr. Silvers	Vern Hett
The Vettors	Mr. Hathaway	John Shuler
Gordon Tory	Don Trulicka	Jimie Fulton
Denny Jones	Geo. Medina	John Parcell
Ned Wade	Tiny Mowery	Lester Bowman
Earl Johnson	Mr. Kinsley	

And perhaps others, although some who made a good start out there have sold out and moved away. All the people settling around the Corral



Homestead of George and Leonard Vetter

Creek area had to carve their own roads out of the sagebrush while the Roza farmers of today had good roads for the most part laid out and built for their convenience.

This picture of the Vetter home in the early days was no doubt the largest house built of the first settlers but when the Corral Creek farmers used to forage up there for sagebrush to burn nothing was left there but a small 8 by 10 shanty. House was possibly burned.

Mr. and Mrs. George Vetter of Sunnyside, Homesteaded a tract of land on the southern slope of the Rattlesnake Range northwest of Benton City long before the coming of irrigation. They raised chickens on a large scale in an incubator and shipped the fryers to Seattle. Mr. Vetter continued his farming at Sunnyside with his wife and two small children living on the Rattlesnake homestead because of the little's boy's asthma being aggravated by the alkali at Sunnyside.

Mr. Vetter had strung barbed wire around their meager supply of alfalfa hay to protect it from the herds of wild horses roaming the range. One winter was unusually long and severe, the grass had not started and the range animals were keen to smell the fragrant alfalfa so sorely needed by the Vetter work horses.

One night Mrs. Vetter heard the horses at the stack so grabbing a sheet she flew out the door in her nightgown wildly waving it and screaming at the top of her voice. Suddenly she heard thundering hoofs from the opposite direction with loud and angry curses as two horsemen attempted to turn the mauraders toward Kiona. She beat a hasty retreat toward the house as A. L. Yakey, operator of the Kiona Livery Barn with a hired man tried to herd the animals down the Corral Creek canyon. He had contracted to ship these horses to some construction job and the box cars were waiting for their load on the railroad tracks. As it was he had to pay two days demurrage while they rounded up those cayuses and drove them to the shipping point.



Sagebrush is removed and ground is being prepared for planting

Years later after the extension of the Sunnyside Canal went through and reached below the Vetter homestead it was the Corral Creek homesteaders turn to have trouble with droves of horses. The first few years the Corral Creek farmers just had to about scratch gravel for a living. They had to make all their own roads and some of them had to haul their drinking water. There was practically no work for any outside remuneration. They too had to watch their stock feed.

The Rattlesnake wheat dry land farmers used after their crops were off in early fall just turned the work stock loose and let them forage where they might for their living. Soon the horses tired of old dry wheat stubble wandered around over the hills and hollers till they got a wiff of green alfalfa and proceeded to make a bee line for this promising pasture. When they found a bridge to cross over they took over the pastures below the Sunnyside as if it was theirs by right.

The Corral Creek men protested to the wheat men to keep their hands of horses at home but to no avail. The horses were tramping down the last cutting of hay which meant so much to the Corral Creek men. Finally the only solution was adopted that anyone could think up. When one morning a large drove of the animals took over the fields, several men rounded them up and trailed them down the road on through Benton City and down Badger Canyon. There was an angry bunch of owners of the horses, but no more trouble from the animals. Evidently a herd law went into effect and each and every owner of stock took precautions to see their stock stayed down on the home scres, feed or no feed.

The following pages are descriptions of the David McAlpin homestead which later became the town of Benton City.

Also included is a dedication attached to the plat of Benton City, as well as the matter of vacation of a part of the city carried through in order to reduce the taxes.

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
TO

David McAlpin

PATENT

Dated February 4th, 1897
Filed June 23rd, 1897
at 4:25 P.M.

Recorded in Volume "A" of
Deeds, page 640,
Yakima Country Records.

Whereas there has been deposited in the General Land Office of the

United States a Certificate of the register of the land office at North Yakima, Washington, whereby it appears that, pursuant to the Act of Congress approved 20th May, 1862, and the Acts supplemental thereto, the claim of David McAlpin has been established and duly consummated, in conformity to law for the

East half of the Southwest quarter; The fractional Northwest quarter of the Southwest quarter and the Lot numbered seven of Section Eighteen in Township Nine North of Range Twenty Seven East of Willamette Meridian in Washington, containing 158.12 acres according to the official Plat of the Survey of the said land returned to the General Land Office by th Surveyor General.

Now Know Ye, That there is therefore, granted by the United States unto the said David McAlpin the tract of land above described; subject to any vested and accrued water rights for mining, agricultural, manufacturing, or other purposes, and rights to ditches and reservoirs used in connection with such water rights, as may be recognized and acknowledged by the local customs, laws, and decisions of Courts, and also subject to the right of the proprietor of a vein or lode to extract and remove the ore therefrom, should the same be found to penetrate or intersect the premises hereby granted and provided by law, and there is reserved from the lands hereby granted, a right of way for ditches or canals constructed by the authority of the United States:

By the President, Grover Cleveland

By Acting Secretary I. A. Pugh

L. Q. C. Lamar Recorder of the General Land Office

(Seal)

Recorded Vol. 2 at page 95.

DAVID McALPIN and ELLEN

R. McALPIN, his wife

TO

F. L. PITMAN

CONTRACT

Dated November 30th, 1906

Filed December 14th, 1906

at 1:45 P.M.

Recorded in Vol. 3 of Deeds,
page 624.

The said first parties will sell and do sell, to said party of the second part, and said party of the second part will purchase of said parties of the first part, the following described land, situated in Benton County, Washington, to-wit:

Beginning at the N.W. corner of a tract of land belonging to Ezra Hill, which corner is 465 feet more or less, west from the center of Section 18 in Township 9 North of Range 27 E.W.M. thence south along the west line of said Hill tract to the northerly line of the right of way of the Kiona Canal, thence westerly along the northerly line of said right of way to the intersection thereof with the east line of a tract of land belonging to Nixon Palmer, thence north along the east of said Palmer tract to the north line of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of said section 18, thence east along said north line to place of beginning, containing 33 acres more or less, with the appurtenances thereunto belonging, on the following terms:

The purchase price for said land is the sum of \$422.00, one dollar of which is hereby acknowledged, and as a further and final consideration for said land, said party of the second part agrees to locate or cause to be located, the main line of the North Coast Railroad and to establish or cause to be established, regular station and depot of said railroad equal to Kiona depot of N.P. Ry., on the N $\frac{1}{2}$ of SW $\frac{1}{4}$ of Section 18, Twp. 9 N.R. 27 E.W.M. within a period of 1 year from the date hereof.

Said first parties hereby expressly agree that the money consideration herein named, together with the benefits which they will derive from the location of said railroad and the establishment of a station and depot as set forth herein, shall be adequate consideration and shall constitute the full purchase price for said land.

Said first parties agree to convey said land by good and sufficient deed, transferring clear title, to second party, upon payment of \$421.00 the unpaid portion of the money consideration, when grading of roadbed shall have been completed and a certificate of the President of said Railroad Company showing establishment of a station and depot, which shall be the only depot and station on said railroad within three miles thereof, during 10 years from this date.

If the junction of the Spokane Branch of said railroad shall be made at Kiona the depot herein provided for shall be used for the depot of said junction.

In case said railroad shall not be completed and in operation within five years from this date, or upon failure to comply with any of the provisions hereof, said party (second party) agrees to pay the sum of \$20.00 per acre for all of said land, which said parties (first parties) hereby agree to accept as full consideration therefor and to execute and deliver deed as above upon payment thereof.

David McAlpin
Ellen R. McAlpin
F. L. Pitman

WITNESS: Elza Dean
STATE OF WASHINGTON
COUNTY of SPOKANE SS

Acknowledged November 30th, 1906, by David McAlpin, Ellen R. McAlpin, and F. L. Pitman.
(SEAL)

DAVID McALPIN and ELLEN R.
McALPIN, his wife
TO
F. L. PITMAN

Before Elza Dean, Notary Public
Residing at Spokane, Washington

WARRANTY DEED

Dated December 3rd, 1908
Filed December 22nd, 1908
Recorded in Vol. 18 of
Deeds, page 369

For and in consideration of the sum of \$600.00 do by these presents CONVEY AND WARRANT the following described real estate situate in the County of Benton, State of Washington, to-wit:—

Beginning at the NE corner of a tract of land belonging to N. E. Palmer, which corner is 1025 feet east from the quarter section corner on the west side of Section 18, Township 9 North, Range 27 East W.M., running thence east 1104 feet to the NW corner of a tract of land belonging to F. L. Pitman's; thence south along the west line of said Pitman's tract of land 947.6 feet to the northerly boundary line of the right of way of the Kiona Canal; thence westerly along the boundary line of said canal 1140.5 feet to the SE corner of said Nixon E. Palmer's tract of land; thence north along the east line of said N. E. Palmer's tract of land 1129.7 feet to the place of beginning, containing 28.87 acres.

DAVID McALPIN
ELLEN R. McALPIN

State of Washington
County of Benton SS

Acknowledged the 3rd day of December A.D. 1908 By David McAlpin and Ellen R. McAlpin, his wife.

Before H. A. ROFF, Notary Public in and for
the State of Washington residing at Kiona, Washington

(Seal)

F. L. PITMAN and MARY
E. PITMAN, his wife
TO
Percy F. Parker.

WARRANTY DEED

Dated December 11th, 1909
Filed December 22nd, 1908
at 8:52 A.M.
Recorded in Vol. 18 of
Deeds, page 374
Auditor's Fee No. 16047

For and in consideration of the sum of \$1.00, do by these presents convey

and warrant to said party of the second part, the following described land, situate in Benton County, Wash., to-wit:

Beginning at the northwest corner of the southwest quarter (SW $\frac{1}{4}$) of Section 18, T 9 R.27 E.W.M., and running thence south along the west line of said quarter section 1422.5 feet to the northerly boundary of the right of way of the Kiona canal; thence North 74-29' east along said northerly boundary 1130 feet;

thence north 82-58 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' east along said northerly boundary 200 feet;
thence south 83-35 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' east along said northerly boundary 350 feet;
thence north 75-25 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' east along said northerly boundary 450 feet;
thence north 57-34 $\frac{1}{2}$ ' east along said northerly boundary 628 feet;
more or less to the east line of said quarter section;
thence north along said east line to the center of Section 18;
thence west along the north line of said quarter section to the place of beginning, containing an area of 68 acres, more or less,

Said described lands being and including the identical tracts of land conveyed to said F. L. Pitman by the following named grantors: Alford A. McAlpin and Edith E. McAlpin, his wife, by deed dated Dec. 8, 1908; Nixon E. Palmer and Gertrude Palmer, his wife, by deed dated Oct. 16th, 1908; David McAlpin and Ellen R. McAlpin, his wife, by deed dated Dec. 3rd, 1908 and that part of the land conveyed to said F. L. Pitman from Ezra Hill, a single man, by deed dated September 17th, 1907, lying north of the right of way of said Kiona Canal.

F. L. PITMAN
MARY E. PITMAN

State of Washington
County of Spokane SS

Acknowledged December 12th, 1909, by F. L. PITMAN and MARY E. PITMAN, his wife.
(SEAL)

Before M. L. Walker, Notary Public
residing at Spokane, Washington

PERCY F. PARKER
TO
THE PUBLIC
Description and Dedication:—

DESCRIPTION and DEDICATION
attached to the Plat of
BENTON CITY,
FILED February 8th, 1910,
at 11:35 A.M.

Benton City, Washington, comprises the following land, to-wit:—

All of fractional NW $\frac{1}{4}$ and all that part of the SW $\frac{1}{4}$, NW $\frac{1}{4}$ of SE $\frac{1}{4}$ and lot 3 of Section 18, Township 9, north of Range 27, E.W.M. lying and being above and Northwesterly from the right of way of the Kiona Canal. Also all of THESE $\frac{1}{4}$ of NE $\frac{1}{4}$ and that part of lot 6 of Section 13, Township 9, north of Range 26, E.W.M. described as follows to-wit: Beginning at the Northeast corner and running west along the north line of said lot 6 to a point 100 feet Southwesterly measured at right angles from the center line of the North Coast Railroad as located across said lot 6, thence Southeasterly parallel with and 100 feet from said center line along a tangent and curve to left having a radius of 3920 feet a distance of 1405.1 feet to the East line of said lot 6; thence North 746.9 feet to the place of beginning, containing in all an area of 295.4 acres, more or less.

I, Percy F. Parker, a bachelor, hereby certify that I am the owner of the above described lands, that with my free consent and in accordance with my desire, the same has been surveyed and platted into lots, blocks, streets and alleys to the use of the public, as shown thereon and I hereby dedicate the use of the streets and alleys to the use of the public forever; reserving however, the right for myself and assigns to occupy said streets and alleys with water pipes and mains, and with electric wires, poles and other electrical apparatus as may be necessary for the conduct, transmission and use of water and electric current for said townsite and lands adjoining excepting also from this dedication all those tracts of land indicated

on said plat as North Coast Railroad right-of-way and Station grounds.
Witness my hand and seal this 8th day of February, 1910.

Percy F. Parker (Seal)

STATE OF WASHINGTON
County of Benton SS

Acknowledged the 8th day of February 1910 by Percy F. Parker, a bachelor, personally appearing.
(SEAL)

Before, K. C. Bowers, Notary Public
in and for the State of Washington,
residing at Prosser, Washington.

Approved by County Engineer, 2/8, 1910

K. C. Bowers, County Engineer,
Benton County, Washington.

I hereby certify that all taxes assessed against the above land have been paid in full.

R. B. Walker, Treasurer of Benton
County, Washington.

Approved by the Board of County Commissioners, Feb. 8th, 1910.

W. C. Travis, Chairman of the Board
of County Commissioners,
Benton County, Washington

BENTON CITY HALL

Being very religious the proprietors of the Benton City hotel were very particular about the conduct and character of their employees. One night one of the owners who slept in an upper suite was aroused from sleep and had to go downstairs to take care of something he had forgotten. Passing through the large lobby he turned on the light and saw one of the waitresses in a large chair seated in the arms of her boy friend. He told them it was after midnight and in no uncertain terms bade them go to bed.

Next day he remonstrated with the girl about spooning with her boy friend so late at night and in the hotel where someone might come in and see them. His desire was to have the best name possible for the hotel. The girl looked at him in amazement and replied:

"Didn't you ever spoon with the girls when you were young?"

He replied aghast at the very idea.

"I should say not."

In a pitying tone she answered:

"O gee! Look what you missed."

THE NORTH COAST RAILROAD CO.,
a corporation,
TO
Percy F. Parker

QUIT CLAIM DEED
Dated August 9th, 1910
Filed August 27th, 1910
at 9:05 A.M.
Recorded in Vol. 21 of
Deeds, page 385
Auditor's fee No. 19285

For and in consideration of the sum of \$1.00, do by these presents remise, release, convey and forever quit-claim the following described real estate, situate in Benton County, State of Washington to-wit:

All that part of Section 18, Township 9 North, Range 27, E.W.M., and section 13, Township 9 North, Range 26, E.W.M. included within the plat of the town of Benton City, Benton County, Washington, except that portion designated on the plat of Benton City as North Coast Right-of-way and Station Grounds.

THE NORTH COAST RAILROAD CO.
By Robt. E. Strahorn, President.
Attest: A. G. Smith, Secretary

(Corp. Seal.)

(STATE OF WASHINGTON)

SS

COUNTY OF SPOKANE)

Acknowledged August 9, 1910, by Robt. E. Strahorn and A. G. Smith, President and Secretary, respectively of the corporation that executed the within instrument and on oath deposed and stated that they were authorized to execute said instrument and that the seal affixed is the corporate seal of said corporation.

Before, J. S. Workman
Notary Public in and for the State of
Washington, residing at Spokane

(Seal)

Com. expires Nov. 30, 1913

IN THE MATTER OF VACATION OF PORTION OF BENTON CITY PETITION

Board of County Commissioners of Benton County, Washington.

Comes now the undersigned and respectively represents to your Board this said petition and the following facts, that:

WHEREAS, Those persons who originally platted the townsite of Benton City, Washington, did so in anticipation of it soon becoming a town of considerable population as it was the plan of the Oregon-Washington Railroad & Navigation Co. at that time to make said town one of the terminal points on its line and therefore a considerable area was included in said townsite plat, to-wit: about 302 acres and

WHEREAS, The said terminal plans of said O.W.R.&N. Co. were altered so that Benton City was not made a terminal point and the population of said town has not increased as anticipated, the population at the present time not being over fifty persons, and

WHEREAS, The said townsite of Benton City has been, since water for irrigation purposes has been available, farmed as a ranch and that it is now intensively farmed as a ranch with the exception of a few lots occupied by residents, and

WHEREAS, There is no prospect of any growth in the near future which would call for a townsite of the size of the present plat of Benton City, and

WHEREAS, The general taxes and assessments are much greater on platted land of this character than upon acreage and of no benefit to the owners thereof more than as acreage, it being the present plans of the undersigned owners to farm the land requested to be vacated as acreage and farm land and not to develop it as a townsite;

Now, Therefore We, the undersigned owners of said land request that the portions of Benton City townsite, as hereinafter set forth be vacated and classified and assessed as acreage.

Dated this 14th of December, 1918

Respectfully submitted:

Maston Roop,

Elmer P. Wood

T. J. Montgomery

W. M. Farrington

Carl A. Zigner

Benton Land Co.,

By Leroy L. Todd, V. Pres.

Filed January 6th, 1919

CLOUDBURST HITS RATTLESNAKE RANGE

On July 9th, 1916 a large cloudburst descended on Corral Creek. Wallace Blake from his homestead, which is now the Jackson Ranch, saw the cloud hit the Rattlesnake Butte. It was around 12 o'clock noon. Mrs. Inez Johnson was returning to their homestead from a trip to Kiona. She was driving two light weight ponies hitched to a regulation hack used at that time by most ranchers.

There was a loud roaring, grinding noise which sounded somewhat like a train rushing toward her down the basin of Corral Creek. On the eastern bank of the canyon up on the rim she sighted two neighbors waving their hats and shouting at her. What their antics portended she had no idea as she could not hear what they said. It was not until she was within 300 yards of where their home road left the canyon floor that a flood or dirty water anyway 15 feet high throwing sagebrush high in the air and grinding the rocks in the stream bed left no doubt in her mind it was a good time to make tracks in a hurry from the path of the flood.

She had no time to turn the ponies and race down the canyon ahead of the flood. She had to face it. Shoving her two year old daughter down between her knees where she had a good hold on the child and could use both hands to manage the lines and guide the team she whipped the horses shouting at the top of her voice to scare them until the angry waters were almost upon her. Although she was able to turn the team up the hill in the nick of time the side reach of the water flushed the hacks hind wheels. Mrs. Johnson drove the team up the hill to safety then helped her child out and right there and then got down on her knees and thanked God for her escape. If she had been caught 100 yards farther down the canyon there would have been no escape from the flood waters as the high rocky sidewalls of the canyon brooked no climbing out at that point. The water from the cloudburst ran all afternoon and had only slightly diminished much by next day. The flood waters took out the bridge over the main state road at Corral Creek and to get home Mr. Johnson had to walk the ties over the O.W.R.&R. railroad. There have been other cloudbursts over the Rattlesnake Range where Corral Creek originates but none to compare with the one of July 9th, 1916.

During a very cold winter, date not recalled, with a good deal of snow on the ground, farmers began to take notice of the sides of their haystacks were being grazed off in too large quantities to put up with. A rabbit drive was organized led by Fred and Ed Hanson which netted over a thousand head of the fast running animals. It was a big chore getting the pelts removed from the carcasses for marketing purposes but the job was finally accomplished.

We do not have a list of the boys names who served in the first World War, but in the second World War a strict account was kept of all the boys who enlisted from Benton City. For around two years the pictures of most of these young men of whom our town was vastly proud of were exhibited in the north window of the Benton Trading Company store. There was always someone stopping to see if any new pictures had been added to the group.

Jack Wilson, son of Grady and Lena Wilson was acclaimed as one of the most renowned flyers in World War II. He was rated by the military as downing the first German Messerschmidt plane over Africa. Later he was one of 21 pilots brought back to America to teach other airplane pilots where to shoot the most vulnerable points on the big German planes carrying General Rommel's officers and men back to their homeland when the Americans helped the British get the enemy on the run in Africa.

In July of 1944 Meurnice Wilson was killed while in training in California. On October 7th, 1944 Raymond Grant Johnson, a pilot, while taking part in the last big raid over Germany was shot down with many of his Squadron over Vienna while bombing the Ploesti Oil Fields. Over twenty-two thousand of our American boys were buried at Central Cemetery in Vienna until the territory there was divided between the Russians, British and French and the Americans. Hence the Russians who drew this Cemetery in a division of the country made the Americans take up all the boys buried there. All who

could be identified were sent home to their families. All those who could not be identified were brought back years later and interred in the National Cemeteries.

In 1952—8 years after the War was over Lieut. Raymond Johnson and 26 of his comrades were brought back by the Government of the United States and buried with full military honors in the National Cemetery at St. Louis, Missouri. Russell Thompson was shot down over Okinawa in the Pacific theater of war but was brought back and buried in the family plot in Evergreen Cemetery. In the Korean war, Ab Snyder, son of Glen and Thelma Snyder, lost his life but was brought back for burial in the Evergreen Cemetery. After the Korean War—Theodore Ross was drowned somewhere across the Atlantic, doubtless when stationed in Germany. He too was brought back and buried with military honors in the Evergreen Cemetery, one mile north of the Benton City schoolhouse.

THE AMERICAN LEGION POST

Kiona-Benton Post 115 the American Legion Post was chartered June 4th, 1934 listing the charter members as follows:

Allison Kennedy	Frank Jameson	Carl Howard
Ward Kennedy	Edwin H. Hanson	Harry Miller
Grady Wilson	Milford W. Roop	Alvin Scott
Walter Acord	T. Oral Montgomery	Argus Hughes
Joe Triesch	Harry M. Russell	Oliver M. Rhoades

The Post name was changed from the name it carried after the First World War to that of Meurnice Wilson Post from World War II after Meurnice Wilson was killed in training in California in July 1944.

The Legion Auxillary was formed in 1945 and the Charter was dated Nat. Headquarters October 25, 1945. Signed by the state November 4th, 1945.

The V.F.W. Post was established May 27, 1953 number 3082, named for Raymond Grant Johnson, first Benton City boy to be killed in action of World War II, over the Ploesti Oil Fields in the last big raid over Vienna. Championed by Captain Tinkler stationed at Richland and Al Grimes, Company Commander of the Richland Post, they brought up the Richland band and marched down the Benton City main street from the school-house to the Community Club building where appropriate services were conducted. Al Haney was the first Post Commander.

Later the V.F.W. Auxillary was formed with 15 women members. Mrs. Henrietta Tinkler was the first President with Mrs. Inez Johnson President for the second year.

Gold Star Mothers

Lena Wilson	Inez Johnson
Laura Thompson (now deceased)	Thelma Snyder

The American Legian Members are now housed in their own building on Legion Heights. The V.F.W. Post disbanded on account of so many members moving away. The country owes a lot to the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

WORLD WAR II — AUGUST 1945 BENTON CITY BOYS IN ARMED SERVICES

Casualties

1. Thompson Russell
2. Milson Meurnice

Missing In Action

1. Johnson Raymond 1st Lieut.

In Service

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1. Asher Bill | 46. Mathews Tommy |
| 2. Blakely Bill | 47. Molinder Bert St. Sergeant |
| 3. Blakely Harry | 48. Morin Carl Captain |
| 4. Brooks Don | 49. Morin Harry |
| 5. Brooks Pat | 50. Nickolaus James |

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 6. Brown Robert | 51. Parkinson Dale |
| 7. Carson Kit 2nd Lieut. | 52. Parkinson Ivan |
| 8. Chapman Evan | 53. Parkinson Wayne |
| 9. Chapman Gordon | 54. Peckenpaugh Dwight |
| 10. Church Ralph | 55. Reno Edward |
| 11. Clark Roy | 56. Reno Raymond |
| 12. Clayton Clarence Sergeant | 57. Richman Delbert Corporal |
| 13. Collins Eddie | 59. Richman Fred St. Sergeant |
| 14. Cook Elza Sergeant | 59. Richman LaVerne Corporal |
| 15. Crawford William | 60. Rider Wesley |
| 16. Culp Alva | 61. Ringer Jess |
| 17. Dowty Norman Sergeant | 62. Roop Johnny |
| 18. Engelhart Everett | 63. Roop Milford Corporal |
| 19. Evert Kenneth | 64. Roop Wallace 1st Lieut. |
| 20. Fahnholtz Clifford | 65. Rucker Phil |
| 21. Finley Earl | 66. Schab Robert T. |
| 22. Finley Ralph | 67. Schwendig Harvey |
| 23. Finley Willis | 68. Smith Jack 2nd Lieut. |
| 24. Fleming Donald | 69. Snider Jimmie |
| 25. Fleming Harry Captain | 70. Snyder Everett Corporal |
| 26. Giles Cyril | 71. Sparks Leroy |
| 27. Green Kenneth | 72. Sparks Roland Corporal |
| 28. Grending Howard | 73. Spencer Daniel |
| 29. Hanson Robert | 74. Stickney Kenneth |
| 30. Hanson Wayne St. Sergeant | 75. Stone Wayne 2nd Lieut. |
| 31. Harmon Dennis | 76. Strahsberg Wm. |
| 32. Hartman Allison Colonel | 77. Stringer Harold Sergeant |
| 33. Henson Roy | 78. Storm Bob |
| 34. Hubbard Whitney 2nd Lieut. | 79. Thompson George |
| 35. Johanson Richard | 80. Uland George |
| 36. Johanson Robert | 81. Wallace Bob |
| 37. King Arnold St. Sergeant | 82. Wallace Margaret (Wave) |
| 38. King Clifton | 83. Warren Earl St. Sergeant |
| 39. Kortus Gerritt | 84. Warren Gene |
| 40. Kossman Earl | 85. Warren Henry |
| 41. Kossman Fay | 86. Warren Leo |
| 42. Kossman Gerald | 87. Whitten John A. |
| 43. Kossman, Sirel | 88. Wilson Fred |
| 44. Lewis Barney | 89. Wilson Jack Captain |
| 45. Luft Robert | 90. Wilson Loin |

Discharged from Service

- | | | |
|--------------------|-------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Allen Lewis | 7. Green Harold | 13. Molinder Swain |
| 2. Autry Wilburn | 8. Green Merrill | 14. Montgomery Douglas |
| 3. Blakely Charles | 9. Hadley Harry | 15. Phillips Jim |
| 4. Carroll Jae | 10. Kellem Arnold | 16. Reno James |
| 5. Chapman Nolan | 11. King Charles | 17. Wallace Ben |
| 6. Church Enest | 12. Laisure Leroy | 18. Wallace Jim |

LEGION HEIGHTS

In early 1943 an acreage of land north of Benton City was taken over by a large construction company and any number of hutmments and other buildings were erected to house workers for the company who had a contract on the Atomic Project at Hanford. When the main construction boom was over the buildings were all torn down and moved away including the cook-house where a force of men were fed regularly.

Shortly the American Legion purchased this land formerly a cow pasture and put down a well for their needs. Lots were laid out with good roads making them easily accessible and were sold to members as well as other parties. To date there are many lovely, well-built homes on what is

called Legion Heights. The American Legion men have a commodious, cement block building to hold their own and Auxiliary meetings or for rental purposes.

The Catholic and Mormon churches are nearby on the south while the large Baptist church is on the west of the Legion plot. This acreage of fine residences was annexed to the town of Benton City on February 18, 1955.

Christmas season of 1958 two of the homes on Legion Heights won prizes for the most beautiful Christmas lighting arrangement in town. The whole plot is laid out in pleasing fashion with shrubbery being planted so the owners there can be justly proud to call Legion Heights their permanent home.

Help is given to every worthy cause by both Legion Members and also the Auxiliary. The first two card parties given this year the proceeds were all donated to further the cause of the Community Development Program. A banquet is held each year to commemorate the signing of the Armistice at the end of World War I, on November 11, 1918.

MEN HAVING SERVED IN DIFFERENT WORLD WARS AND WHO HAVE RESIDED IN BENTON CITY AT VARIOUS TIMES

- | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|
| 1. O. B. Gwin | 47. A. F. Johnson |
| 2. Oral Montgomery | 48. Aaron Snyder |
| 3. Harry Russell | 49. W. P. Lund |
| 4. Ward Kennedy | 50. Freeman Gibson |
| 5. Allison Kennedy | 51. Tom Richards |
| 6. Jim Stuart | 52. Darwin Lambier |
| 7. Joe Triesch | 53. Dick Barton |
| 8. Irving Thomas | 54. Arlo Baumgartner |
| 9. Ed Lambrecht | 55. Lewis Reynolds |
| 10. Will Finley | 56. Lacy Allen |
| 11. Al Rhoades | 57. Herb Davis |
| 12. S. F. Rayhill | 58. Jack Hamilton |
| 13. Ted Rouse | 59. Webber Camp |
| 14. L. J. Shoemaker | 60. Gib Nickolaus |
| 15. Archie Fleming | 61. Walter Krom |
| 16. John Couch | 62. Ralph Fortner |
| 17. Walt Acord | 63. Norman Foster |
| 18. Emmett Clark | 64. Terry Johnson |
| 19. Johnny Delere | 65. Vincent Johnson |
| 20. Rolo Clark | 66. Jim Search |
| 21. Charles Engelhart | 67. Junior Brooks |
| 22. Dewey Mattox | 68. Marvin Grey |
| 23. M. A. McBean | 69. Jimmie Anderson |
| 24. Edgar Ordway | 70. Art Neyens |
| 25. Wm. Pendleton | 71. Walter H. Hanson |
| 26. Theodore Ross | 72. Wm. Archambeau |
| 27. Fred L. Smith | 73. Herb Besse |
| 28. James Deardorff | 74. Marvin Sjostrom |
| 29. O. J. Rolph | 75. M. Stafford |
| 30. Swain Molinder | 76. J. E. Freeman |
| 31. Argus Hughes | 77. H. P. Anderson |
| 32. Grady Wilson | 78. Mut Covington |
| 33. Orville Hill Jr. | 79. Keith Prosch |
| 34. John Austin | 80. Captain Tinkler |
| 35. Wayne Wilson | 81. Randall Borden |
| 36. Larry Alsbury | 82. Jack Packard |
| 37. Glenn A. Roberts | 83. Frances Packard |
| 38. Ray Ingraham | 84. James Wilson |
| 39. Philip Packard | 85. Frances Foster |
| 40. Bud Wilson | 86. C. Kinney |
| 41. Jack Tunison | 87. Mr. McCollum |
| 42. Clarence Matteson | 88. Bob Baird |
| 43. Bob Murphy | 89. Don Murphy |
| 44. Dennis Murphy | 90. Milford Rood |

And possibly many others whose names we do not now recall.

THE BENTON CITY MASONIC LODGE

The Masonic Fraternity had its beginning in the Kiona-Benton City community in 1928 when a group of Masons, holding their individual membership in this and other states, met as a Masonic Club in the Community Club building. They later applied for a dispensation from the Washington Masonic Grand Lodge at Tacoma to form a regularly constituted and chartered Lodge at Benton City.

This request was granted and "Benton Lodge No. 227 Free and Accepted Masons of Washington" came into existence at a constitution ceremony held in the Community Club building on September 8th, 1927 and conducted by the then Grand Master of Masons, Robert Wilson of Spokane. The Lodge records show the following as Charter members:

Alfred B. Brewster	Eward J. Brand	Argus Hughes
Ira M. Hartman	Alvin E. Scott	W. C. Ingram
Porter Hartman	Alexander McCloskey	Peter H. Martina
Earle V. Williams	Frank S. Hedger	Alonzo E. Whan
John Dellere	John J. Smith	Oliver Crosby
W. D. Crawford	Oscar M. Hanson	Milford W. Roop
J. Walter Hartman		

The growth of the Lodge was gradual and continuous and meetings regularly held in the Community Club building until 1952.

That year a transaction was successfully negotiated with the local Methodist Church to purchase the church building located north of the Kiona bridge, when the members of the Methodist congregation moved into their new structure east of the school grounds.

Extensive remodeling and improvements have been made to the former church building to make of it a comfortable and convenient lodge hall and to provide ample accommodations for its own members as well as those of the local Eastern Star Chapter and a Rainbow Girls Assembly which was later organized and also make use of the Masonic hall facilities.

THE BENTON CITY BOOSTER COMES TO LIFE

The Kiona-Benton City community had been without a newspaper for a number of years until 1932 when Oscar Hanson, proprietor and owner of Oscar's Barber Shop, conceived the idea of providing the community with some sort of advertising and news media.

The proposal met with the approval of several Benton City businessmen who contributed the funds necessary to purchase a small mimeographing outfit.

This resulted in the printing and publishing of a mimeographed 4-page pamphlet called "The Benton City Booster" which was mailed weekly to approximately 225 postoffice and rural mail route boxholders in both Kiona and Benton City.

This news and advertising publication was maintained without subscription charges by the advertisements of local business houses who paid a modest advertising rate with Mr. Hanson furnishing the editing, printing and publishing requirements at his barber shop.

The purpose and plan of this publication was stated on the front page of Volume, No. 1 of the Benton City Booster, dated April 13, 1932.

"Through the 100% cooperation of the men in business in Benton City, we are pleased to present the first copy of the Benton City Booster. It comes to you every week with the hope and wish that it will serve to create to a larger degree that spirit of friendliness, goodwill and cooperation which every community must cultivate in order to continue to grow and develop."

That the need of such a community organ for the exchange of news and advertising was appreciated is attested by the fact that when it appeared that the "BOOSTER" would have to suspend publication due to lack

of funds during those depression years, volunteers would canvass the community and secure the necessary contributions for its continuance.

The Benton City Booster continued to function until the beginning of World War II when the difficulty of securing paper, ink, stencils and supplies, together with other related contingencies forced it to cease publication in 1942.

"SKOOKUM PARK"

Possibly not many people in the Benton City of today know the origin or history of our town park which is situated in the heart of the town proper. It was one of the first civic projects of the Community and was acquired from the Sunnyside Irrigation District Sept. 6th, 1938.

Our population at that time was small but the civic outlook was far-sighted while the spirit and loyalty of the people was unbounded. Somehow this park project acquired the name of Skookum Park mostly through editorials in the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.

On January 13th, 1940 work was actually begun on the ground. There was a lot of cleaning up to do . . . up until this time the park site had been a pasture for Loren Besse's two old white horses which old timers will surely remember as Loren was a familiar figure on the roads when he had these animals hitched to an old wagon following the irrigation flumes hither and yon.

On January 15 the holes were dynamited for the trees. Thanks to Lawrence Kendall, Jae Carroll, and Harry Troupe. On January 16th the first trees were planted by Harry Kendall, Douglas Montgomery, LaVerne Richmond and Robert Mathews. These were the trees on the front of Main street and on sides of park. The big cottonwood donated from the Railroad was planted in the Northeast corner of the park (later this tree was known as the Hangman's Tree). On January 18 there were more trees planted being given by Ed Green, Ed Muldrow and Charles Peckenpaugh.

Later the Maples and walnuts were planted on the south side of the park. These were donated by Mr. Simonton of Gibbon and on March 4th the Japan Cedars were planted given by Archie Fleming. Many other good citizens donated various trees which were scattered around the grounds to insure shade in times to come.

All through the spring Robert Mathews was supervising the work in the park. At that time boys from the National Youth Administration under Milford Roop were allowed to put in some labor in the park, such as cutting willows, alfalfa roots and everything in general.

In February Frances Dvorak hauled in a big load of dirt and different ones planted rose bushes and gladiolus bulbs. Twenty-four firms and individuals from Prosser and Walla Walla (not forgetting the home folks) contributed trees and had the pleasure of doing the planting of such on their own time.

The Get-together Girls Club has helped wonderfully to provide swings and etc, for the pleasure of the children in the Community and benches have been built with tables handy for picnic parties.

BENTON JERSEYS

Mr. and Mrs. O. M. Rhoades purchased their first registered Jerseys in 1945 from the W. F. Nelson herd in Walla Walla, Washington. A year or two later C. C. Smith of Yakima held his dispersal sale and they got 5 head of the Lilac Remus stock. One of these cows was 3rd high as a 4 yr. old in the state for butterfat production.

Tristram Eagle Boy, the herd sire came from the world famous Nash and Sweet herd at The Sixes, Oregon. This bull is now a superior sire with over 25 daughters averaging just under 600 lbs. butterfat. He has five sisters

who have made over 1000 lbs. butterfat in one year. The average cow in the United States only produces 260 lbs. butterfat per year.

This sire was purchased for \$900.00 as a day old calf. In 1956 Mrs. Rhoades secured 4 cows at the Cope dispersal sale in Portland, Oregon. This herd had the highest production records of any Jersey herd in the World at that time.

At present 1959, Benton Jerseys have the highest record for Jerseys in the Yakima Valley and rank fourth for all breeds in both Yakima and Benton County. About 4 years ago the Jersey breeders of the country began the sale of ALL JERSEY MILK, processed by the Twin City Creamery of Kennewick. Benton Jerseys was one of the first 5 herds to begin shipping ALL JERSEY MILK.

In 1957 bulk tanks replaced the 10 gallon milk can and the tankers began picking up the milk. These bulk tanks are refrigerated and cool the milk down from 100° as it is drawn from the cow to 40° in a matter of minutes. The milk temperature is maintained at about 40 degrees until the milk is picked up by the tanker.

At present Mrs. Rhoades herd consists of around 60 head. In summer the herd runs on pasture and in winter they are fed alfalfa hay. Grain is fed according to the milk production. This is the only Jersey herd in the Yakima Valley on National (HIR) test and the only Jersey herd that has been classified in this Valley.

Being a classified herd means the American Jersey Cattle Club in Columbus, Ohio sends a qualified judge to the herd and he rates every cow and bull in the herd as to the breed production. There is over 1000 herds of dairy cows in the Yakima Valley alone besides others in the state. Benton Jerseys are machine milked and the milk collected every other day. The D.H.I.A. is the testing association.

Incorporation of the Town of Benton City

Petition for Incorporation was filed March 25, 1945 signed by more than 60 qualified electors page 360 . . . voted 76 to 32 to incorporate.

Mayor	O. M. Hanson
Councilmen	T. O. Montgomery
	L. H. Kendall
	Harry Troupe
	Archie Borden
	Donald St. Marie
Treasurer	E. E. Storm

Order of Incorporation and election of officers were signed by County Commissioners I. M. Hartman, Robert Evans and Jay Perry. Dean Hartman was appointed clerk.

First budget was adopted December 1945 total \$1418.00.

Later clerk was P. M. VanSlyke.

In 1950 Dean Hoover

In 1952 Maud Hartman

Benton City should celebrate their 50th anniversary in the year 1960. People who have lived here in times past sooner or later drift back with words of praise for our small town. And old-timers still enjoy the reminiscing over bygone days.

The first place the Post Office officiated at was in the building by the track where Argus Hughes had his general store. At one time there was a restaurant there. L. L. Todd was the Postmaster at the time with Anna Wolford as clerk. When the building as well as the rest of the wooden structures clear to Commercial Avenue burned the Post Office was housed in a small building where the Benton Trading Co. now stands. Later it was moved where Mrs. Haun had her realty concern. Later O. B. Gwin built the cement structure where the new bank has been housed and over a year ago the Post Office was moved to the Alsbury building.

BENTON CITY ASSEMBLY OF GOD CHURCH

The first Assembly of God Church services were held by Rev. Jeremiah Wilcox and wife on June 24th, 1948 in the Community Hall with an attendance of 8. In the summer of 1949 the first Vacation Bible School was held in a hutment in town with an attendance of 36. Then in 1950 our Vacation Bible School had an attendance of 111.

Reverend Wilcox left in 1952 when Rev. George Lathim was elected as the new pastor. Shortly after Rev. Lathim took over as pastor the church was incorporated. Final papers were signed in 1952. The Rev. Lathim resigned in 1955 when Rev. L. E. Ford became the new pastor at that time. Shortly after the Rev. Ford came, work was started on the church building on the lower river road. The first service was held in the unfinished building on June 26th, 1955. In the spring of 1958 an addition was built to take care of three classes.

Thanksgiving services were held here by several churches in 1958.

BRIEF HISTORY OF THE PILGRIM HOLINESS

This church was organized in the spring of 1938 with Rev. Milton Sweitzer as pastor. Sometime near the close of World War II the present property on the corner of Hedger Lane and Division was purchased. In January 1957 the church was destroyed by fire and is now being rebuilt by members of the congregation and the present pastor, Rev. Ralph Miller.

Several years ago The Seventh Day Advent church had quite a membership here but for some reason they finally disbanded. Recently they have started services here in the Community Hall. We have no information as to what they are doing but wish them success.

There is also a large and active Lutheran organization who are now meeting in the I.O.O.F. Hall but are preparing to build on Legion Heights.

The Church of Christ meets in the basement of their future sanctuary on Prosser Avenue.

KIONA-BENTON PARENT TEACHER ASSOCIATION

The Parent-Teacher Association was first organized April 29, 1947. Mrs. Sidney Livingston of Pasco, Vice-President of the Washington Congress of Parent-Teachers SSN, was present to assist with the organization. Mrs. Lloyd Shoemaker was elected President, Mrs. Dean Hartman Vice-Pres., Mrs. Malcolm Kerr, Recording Secretary, Mr. Robt. Anderson, Treasurer and Mrs. Joseph Triesch, Historian. Quoting from Original By-Laws . . .

"The object of this association; To promote the welfare of Youth in the home, school, church and community; to raise the standards of home life; to secure adequate laws for the care and protection of Youth; to bring into closer relation the home and the school that parents and teachers may co-operate intelligently with the guidance of Youth; and to develop between educators and the general public such united efforts as will secure for all Youth the highest advantage in physical, mental, social and spiritual education."

Records show that this organization has raised a great deal of money and it was spent for things needed by the school. The first purchases being a record player, records for music appreciation, basket ball suits and playground equipment. The Parent-Teachers Assn. also assisted with a special bond levy, speaking for it, contacting all organizations.

The Parent-Teachers Assn. has assumed sponsorship of cub scouts and more recently the School Patrol. Local citizens who have served as Parent-Teacher Presidents since the organization are:

Mrs. Lloyd Shoemaker	Mrs. C. A. Kendall	Mr. Wayne Stone
Mrs. Archie Borden	Mrs. Marvin Sjostrom	Mr. Hubert Konkle
Mrs. Dean Hartman	Mr. J. D. Crosby	Mr. Kenneth Peyton
Mr. Kenneth Whan	Mr. Joe DeField	Mr. Harold Munson
Mrs. Jack Welsh		

Meetings are held on the 3rd Tuesday of every school month and room Mothers serve refreshments after each meeting.

FARM BUREAU

The Farm Bureau organization was established in Benton City at the same time it was organized in Benton County. It is a group of farmers joining together to have a voice in the Nation's Agriculture program. There were about 15 members in 1948 in this area. The Pres. was Kenneth Whan, Secretary Charles Murphy and the Treasurer, Mike O'Farrell. There are about 50 members as of this date in 1959.

The Benton City local is not very active by itself, but has several active members who act with the Prosser group. Among the things that have been achieved in the county are telephones on the Roza project, road improvement, State and National Legislation. They also participate in F.F.A. awards and pins, potato judging banners and assisted with the Community building in Whitstran. Also have their own insurance agent since 1950.

Benton City sends 2 or 3 voting delegates each year to the State Convention. Farm Bureau helped obtain the gas tax refund and worked on establishing the Richland Ferry along with Franklin County.

THE GET-TOGETHER CLUB

The Get-Together Club was started in 1949 under another name. Then in 1951 the club was named Get-Together Club. Since then we have been doing things for the children by putting play equipment in the park where all may go and enjoy themselves under a mother's supervision. We have installed a swing set with six swings as well as teeter totters for four and a slide with also a merry-go-round. Each year we have been holding an Easter egg hunt in the park for the children. This has all been done by eleven members. We have had bake sales, apron sales and raffles. This club we believe is composed of young married women with two or three children and do a fine job.

BENTON CITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

This group was organized November 1, 1949 with twenty members. Their first President was C. A. Kendall, Vice-President, Warren Plunk, Secy. and Treas., Howard T. Alsbury.

One of their first projects was a survey for the City Sewer System which was completed by the Town in 1956 by a contractor from Goldendale. They were active in getting a bank located here in June 1958 and have encouraged entrance of new businesses.

For several years they sponsored a Community Celebration known as the Mardi Gras. With proceeds from this a cement stage was built in the Park and a building erected for their own and other civic meetings. Any one remember who put up the flagpole?

So far as known, Benton City is the only Chamber of Commerce in the State which owns its own building. They sponsor a Christmas treat and show for the children in the Community, a home lighting contest, Halloween window decorating contest, finance the Easter Egg rolling in the Park at Easter which is managed by the Get-Together Club. They have given several amateur plays and shows to start a fund for the swimming pool which never materialized. At present an all out effort is being made to raise money for the purchase of an ambulance to be under the management of the Fire District.

The women's society of the Methodist Church serve dinners every Monday unless Holidays interfere. Everybody welcome . . . come and bring a friend. Meals served at very reasonable prices. Usually there are business men from Kennewick, Prosser or Richland stop by for various business and to enjoy the good meals served by the women folks. Then too the Chamber quite often have a speaker to especially talk over city and county affairs.

Each year at the Mardi Gras celebration in which old-timers from out

of town really enjoy attending, the Chamber has had a Queen chosen from the young unmarried girls of the town.

So far they have had several Queens as follows:

QUEEN JOYCE SHANNON and HER COURT	1950
QUEEN CAROL THATCHER and HER COURT	1951
QUEEN CAROLYN SUTTON and HER COURT	1952
QUEEN BETTY SUE HILL and HER COURT	1953
QUEEN NEVA MOORE and HER COURT	1954
QUEEN NEVA HOUSTON and HER COURT	1955
QUEEN BARBARA CARTE and HER COURT	1956

A favorite saying of Mrs. Mary Brooks in olden days was: "Give till the Master quits giving to you."

THE BENTON CITY GARDEN CLUB

Organized in 1949 by a group of women meeting in the old Red Cross hutment on Division Street where the Benton City Hardware is now located. Charter members in the club were Mesdames:

A. C. Hewes, President
F. E. Haun, Vice-Pres.

Alyce Orr, Secretary
J. P. Shaughnessy, Treasurer

Other members as follows:

Mrs. J. H. Matteson Kate Grending Mrs. L. S. Carnahan

The object of the club was started as the promotion of floriculture and community betterment . . . the development and care of the city park. This city park has always been a major project, the club donating trees and shrubs, also paying for the cleaning up and watering same until the town took over and got title to it from the Community Club.

They financed a firemen's benefit, raising several hundred dollars for the purchase of protective clothing for the volunteer firemen. Another project was that of raising money to help pay for the rest rooms in the park. Present plans are for cement steps and a rose garden. The first flower show was held in the hutment in 1949 with 39 entries. The show is now an annual affair, the last one having 100 entries. Present membership of the club is 25 members with the following officers: Mrs. Levi Austin, president. Other officers are: Mrs. James Freeman, Mrs. Erwin Knowles, Mrs. Weber Camp.

The regular meetings are well attended and each and every one sincere in their work for community betterment.

HISTORY OF THE BENTON CITY WRANGLERS INC.

On September 15th, 1949, seventeen men met at the City Hall to organize a riding club and on January 2nd, 1950 the Articles or Incorporation were signed and the Club officially became the Benton City Wranglers Inc. The club continued to grow until in 1953 there were 63 active members.

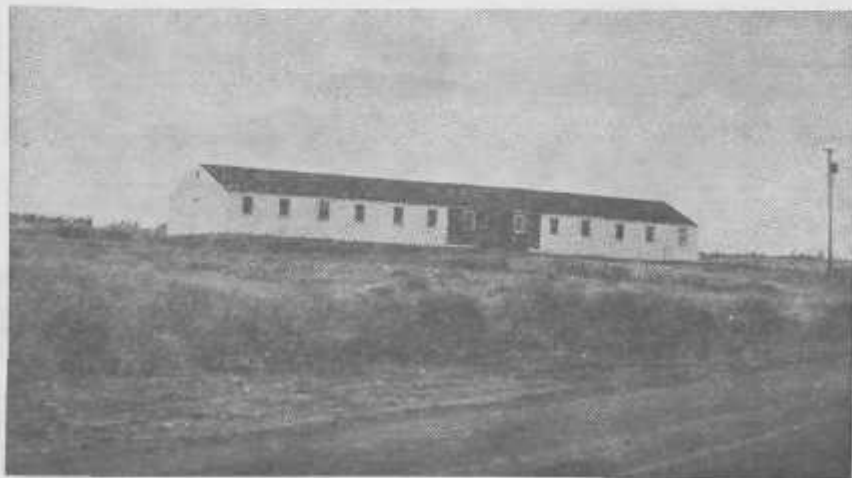
The members have enjoyed many Playdays, Parades, Trail rides and weekend camping trips. The Wranglers first participated in a horse show at the Sunny-Grand Stampede in 1950, and felt quite proud of themselves when they won fourth place ribbons in the relay race. Then they attended the Kennewick Fair and Rodeo the same year and won the relay race trophy.

Since this beginning they have won nine trophies and many second and third place ribbons. The three weekend camping trips into the mountains are a "never to be forgotten experience". The first trip was made to the Blue Mountains. Twenty-five Wranglers and twenty horses made the trip. The horses were trucked to Edmond Springs above Dayton and the next two days were spent riding and camping out.

The Benton City Wranglers have helped with the Mardi Gras celebrations, and last year with the Junior Fair. They have also had at least two playdays a year on their home track and have entertained Clubs from Kennewick, Richland, Pasco and Whitstran.

The Wranglers own ten acres of land just north of Legion Heights and have built a quarter mile track to be used for races and an arena for play day games. They hope to take part in a series of play days given by various clubs in the lower valley this year. Each club will have a play day at which points may be earned towards a trophy to be given for each event at the end of the season.

The Wranglers Club meets the first Monday of every month and would like to have anyone interested in riding to attend their meetings. The adults belonging to the Wrangler have always had their members in the Mardi Gras parade every year as well as some of the younger members to show their prowess on horseback.



First Baptist Church

BAPTIST CHURCH

The First Baptist Church of Benton City was organized December 3, 1950 with nineteen charter members. The church was a result of a Mission started three months prior by the Richland Baptist Church.

The Reverend Don Giddons conducted services until the first Pastor, Reverend A. L. Davis was Pastor until February 1952 at which time the Reverend A. K. Peveto was called. Mr. Peveto served until June 1955 when forced to retire because of ill health.

Two other Pastors have been Reverend Don Copeland from July 1955 to May 1957 and Reverend Jim Harris July 1957 to November 1958. A new Pastor Reverend O. L. Clay has been called and began his duties in March of 1959.

The church held services in the Oddfellows Hall from December 1950 until they moved into the present church in May 1957. Two ministers have gone out from this church . . . one with full time pastorate and the other serving as preacher for a Mission at Whitstran which the church organized January 1st, 1959.

The present membership is 175 persons.

ST. FRANCIS XAVIER CABRINI CATHOLIC CHURCH

Early in 1950 a small group of Catholics in Benton City purchased a surplus church building from the General Electric Company. The building

was moved to Benton City onto a tract of land donated by Mr. and Mrs. Archie Borden. The primary purpose of the building at that time was to have a place to hold catechism classes for the children.

In December 1951 this small group gave a large turkey dinner to raise building funds. The dinner was well attended by the community as have been all succeeding dinners. At this dinner Bishop Dougherty of Yakima congratulated the group, then gave Father Edmond McGrath, Pastor of Kennewick, permission to have Benton City as a Mission Parish.

The first Mass was said the following Sunday in the Rustic Inn Theater and the succeeding Sundays until their own building was completed. The Altar Society and Holy Names Society were formed at this time. The Altar Society took the name of St. Monica. Classes for the children were started before the building was finished.

With the aid and direction of Father McGrath, hammers, nails and saws were wielded to enlarge and finish the church building. The interior is finished in a lovely natural Birch and is a compliment to both planners and builders. The building was dedicated on All Saints Day, November 1, 1952 by Bishop Dougherty of Yakima, who officially named the new Parish, St. Francis Xavier Cabrini, in honor of Mother Cabrini, a new American Saint.

The Parish is growing slowly but steadily. This year they are very fortunate to have two teaching Sisters coming each week from Richland to conduct classes for the grade school children. There is also an evening class for the older children conducted by a member of the Parish. The Catholic Church is located northeast of the Benton City School house on the edge of Legion Heights.

Pleasures Of The Long Ago Days

Much of the pleasure of the young people of the early 1900's was found by swimming in the Yakima River. There was very little drainage water flowing into it then so it was relatively clean and more than relatively pleasant in the hot summer months in the evenings.

The favored spot to plunge into the stream was east and north of the present new bridge where a grove of willows made a natural dressing room for the girls. The boys had never heard of trunks or swimming suits and always gleefully dived in attired *ala nude* . . . that is if they reached the river first. As a rule the girls were already in and the boys had to wait their turn.

One very hot evening the girls had as usual reached the river first and had just plunged in when the boys appeared. Their taunts as to the swimming ability of the girls only made the females more determined to stay in and the boys finally disappearing the girls thought they had given up and gone home.

But alas when the girls finally emerged they were dismayed to find their clothes had all disappeared. The patch to the road was a mass of thistles and sand burrs, but they trudged through in their wet suits to find on each girls front gate her clothing artistically draped with the lingerie very conspicuous.

HISTORY OF BENTON CITY BRANCH OF THE CHURCH OF JESUS CHRIST OF LATTER DAY SAINTS

A Missionary Sunday School was started in a home in April of 1951 by two Missionaries of Richland. It continued as a home Sunday School until Richland's 1st Ward appointed two other members to make it a branch Sunday School. They rented the local theatre to hold services in; meanwhile plans were laid to get a building of their own. Members met in the theatre until November of 1953 when it was decided that it would be more convenient to meet in the basement of one of the members homes until the church was ready to move into their own building.

On January 25, 1953 the first report on building plans was given. It

was reported that a building had been bought and plans were in progress to get it moved to Benton City. Members of the Richland Priesthood helped local members get the foundation laid and by midsummer the building was placed on the foundation. By November they had enlarged it by adding another room, fixing the roof, and had most of the siding on and the windows and doors were in.

By working when the weather permitted, and supplies were available, the volunteer workmen finished the present building so members could hold services in it by July 1954.

In spite of the shifting of temporary residents the membership of this branch is growing. Attendance at the meetings is very high.

They started from a Missionary Sunday School with no members except for those who organized and conducted the meetings in Benton City. They now have a membership of eighty-one. They hold:

Priesthood Meeting every Sunday morning at 9:00 A.M.

Sunday School every Sunday morning at 10:00 A.M.

Sacrament Meeting every Sunday evening at 6:30 P.M.

Primary every Monday afternoon at 3:30 P.M.

THE KIONA-BENTON ROD AND GUN CLUB HISTORY

The Kiona-Benton Rod and Gun Club was organized July 28th, 1953. The first officers were as follows:

President . . . John Austin

Lacy Allen . . . LeRoy Bowers

Vice-Pres. . . S. E. Baker

E. S. Story . . . Albert Cranson

Sec. and Treas. . . . Elmer Simons

Oral Montgomery

Executive Officers:

Elected members to draw up By-Laws as follows

Levi Austin

John Dellere

Howard Wolf

The object of the club is conservation, protection and propagation of fish and wild life and to keep and create good will between land owners and sportsmen.

Since the forming of this organization there are fifteen acres just south of Kiona that can and is being used for recreation. The club hopes to have a small park not too far away in the future. Through this club the people in the district have gained two large Brown Trout plants and three large Pheasant plants. The members have helped Junior gunmen to better game shooting through practice of the trap shoot. The rifle range is used for sighting in game rifles and for target practice by anyone.

Our community is a safer and better place in which to live by the teaching of the use of firearms, also by showing the necessity of game protection. We plan to continue with this program.

THE CLINIC GUILD

This group was organized January 4th, 1954 in order to strengthen and support the medical program in Benton City. The first officers were:

President, Mrs. M. E. Kerr

Secretary, Mrs. Kenneth Cochran

Vice-Pres., Mrs. Archie Borden

Treasurer, Mrs. Mark Fennell

A Doctor Young from Wapato had an office here briefly, later Doctor Lemon from Yakima, both of whom had an office in the Repp building. Doctor Fortune from Seattle opened his office in the Clinic building erected by A. E. Scott for a medical center as well as dental, but it did not prove adequate as it was not connected to the city water. Doctor Fortune served his patients well but finally gave up the practice.

In hopes of attracting a local Doctor, Dick Cecil with John Hall and others completed the building and in November 1953 Doctor Duncan C. Chalmers was invited to look over the area. Business men of the town donated a fund

for equipment and initial expenses. Later money was soon raised through a series of dinners, auctions, and outright donations so the business men were then repaid.

An article in Time Magazine brought congratulatory letters from as far away as Ohio, some with checks enclosed. Doctor Chalmers was seeing 60 patients a day and was tireless in his care of them but was lax in his collections and bookkeeping so had to close his office in March 1954.

Again the community was without medical aid service until July 1954 when two young physicians, Doctors R. E. Richard and R. E. Sotta, who were opening a clinic in Prosser offered to come to Benton City each morning, five days a week. Women of the Clinic Guild served as volunteers at the desk until in 1957 when the practice had increased enough to employ a paid secretary. Patients needing hospitalization are at once sent to the Prosser Memorial Hospital.

The clinic here is equipped for minor surgery and X-rays. Polio shots, pre-school clinics, physical examination for school athletics and summer camps are given locally. A hospital bed, wheel chair, crutches and minor equipment are owned by the clinic and are available to local residents when needed.

HO-DOWNERS SQUARE DANCE CLUB

The Ho-Downers Square Dance Club is a non-profit organization, with officers elected each year from the membership. The club presently meets twice monthly on the second and fourth Fridays, except during the summer months when activities are curtailed. The club was organized in October 1956 and elected officers were:

President, Roy Tucker

Sec. and Treas., Dena Harrison

Hospitality Committee, George and Marguerite McLaughlin

Refreshment Committee, Earl and Dorris Clark and Frank and Iva Dell Daer

The seed of the organization was implanted the previous year by Frank and Iva Dell Daer through their friendship with Clint and Carol Doriss of Richland. Word of the formation of a square dance club was spread throughout Benton City and Clint and Carol Doriss started a square dance class on the basis of Square Dancing.

Many of the original class members continued dancing activities as members of the club. The Ho-Downers club was an independent club when organized, but in order to extend itself for further participation in square dancing activities, the club affiliation joined with the Blue Mt. Council as members of the Wash. State Federation of Square Dancers in 1957.

The general purpose of the club is to provide the individual participation in a recreational activity. The rewards are many fold. A square dancer is an active participant, not a spectator, and soon will experience the subtle challenge of the dance figure, the pride in accepting and of learning the dance. In this manner the dancer is given the opportunity for inner self expression in two of the oldest methods known to man . . . music and dancing.

Square dancers from the club have traveled many miles to dance with other clubs. They have made new friends, who in return have come to Benton City to accept our hospitality. In addition to representing our town throughout Wash. and northeastern Oregon, the Ho-Downers have also sponsored new dance classes for both adults and youth; participated in the Benton Co. Fair activities. In Feb. 1958 they sponsored a Benefit Dance for the purpose of raising funds to facilitate a Heart Operation for a Benton City child. More than 200 guests attended from Wash. and Oregon.

The Ho-Downers future is dedicated to extension of a wholesome and satisfying recreation to the Benton City area and to use its talents for the growth and betterment of our community.

ST. ANDREWS EPISCOPAL CHAPEL

History Committee

St. Andrews Episcopal Chapel is a mission church under the sponsorship of All Saints Episcopal Church in Richland. It was started less than a year ago on May 4, 1958. Mr. and Mrs. John Worley, Mrs. John Riches, and Mr. and Mrs. William Moore met in the home of the Moores with Rev. and Mrs. Francis W. Carr, Mr. Scout Reed, and Mr. Arthur Philip of All Saints

Church. The order of evening prayer was read by Rev. Carr and following the service the group discussed plans for establishing the mission church in Benton City.

From this small group the church has grown to include 25 adults and children. Services are held every Sunday afternoon at 3 p.m. in the American Legion building. Sunday school meets at 2 p.m. Rev. Francis W. Carr drives out from Richland every Sunday to read the services.

The first children to be baptized in the chapel on May 25, 1958 were Zoe Auden, Sandra and Michael Moore, Patricia, Michael and Lennis Worley. The service was read in the home of Mr. and Mrs. John Riches.

Vacation church school was held in July for the children. Many children were made welcomed and were taught the meaning of the Lord's Prayer.

On Nov. 1st Bishop Russell T. Hubbard of Spokane confirmed Pamela Riches, Julia Worley, and Mrs. Virginia Auden. Following the confirmation services dinner was served to over 50 people.

In December a Christmas Idea Silver Tea was served by the Guild members. Two speakers from Richland showed how to make Christmas Decorations for the home. About 50 women from the community attended this event.

Traditional Christmas Eve Communion service was held Christmas eve with over 40 people in attendance. Twelve children formed a special choir for this service.

Two pot luck dinners were served and were considered outstanding social events for the purpose of fellowship and getting acquainted.

These events mark the "first" in St. Andrews Episcopal Chapel.

February 29, 1959 saw the last run of the Union Pacific train to bring mail to Benton City. March 1st, 1958 the Post Office Department established the Yakima-Pasco Highway Post Office. This is a truck that hauls mail and has a mail clerk that sorts and distributes mail for each town, the same as is done on trains.

This truck arrived in Kiona at 11:40 p.m. from Yakima, picked up the mail going East. They returned at 0320 a.m. with the mail coming from the East and picked up the mail going West.

Benton City received its mail and parcel post by mail messenger from Kiona. All mail and parcel post were delivered in Benton City at 7 a.m. and picked up for dispatch at 7 p.m.

On completion of the bridge the department on April 1st, 1958, designated Benton City as the stop for the Highway Post Office instead of Kiona. Kiona now has the messenger service that Benton City had.

During the rush season of Christmas the Department used a special truck for the delivery of parcel post to all the towns in the valley.

DWAINE SHOEMAKER AS METEOROLOGIST WITH GOVERNMENT GEOPHYSICAL PROGRAM AT LITTLE AMERICA

I disembarked from Seattle aboard the ice breaker U.S.S. Burton Island bound for Little America V, Antarctica, on November 18, 1957. The voyage from the United States to the Antarctic proved interesting for me. We called at only one port—Port Littleton, N. Z. Having only six days there and required to check in each day with the ship, I saw only the towns of Port Littleton and Christchurch and some of the area between these two cities.

Christmas day found us at sea again and into the pack-ice that surrounds the Antarctic Continent. Also on this day we encountered twenty-four hours of sunshine per day. On the fifth of January, 1958, I went ashore at Little America which was to be my home for nearly a year. At this time we were in the middle of the Antarctic summer and the temperatures ranged from 0° F. and freezing. Within a short while I was comfortably settled in my quarters and carrying on my duties. My primary duties consisted of taking hourly weather observations and radiosonde observations.

March 8th was a big day at Little America. This was the day that the U.S.S. Glacier brought in the last mail of the season. The following morning at about 3:00 a.m. she departed taking with her the last of the summer support personnel and our last letters for home. We now settled down to getting ready for the long night which lay ahead. Yes, for 109 men, this was to be the longest night of their lives.

Food was good and sleeping quarters, other than a good number of leaks, were comfortable. Recreation facilities, though not like the states, were enjoyed by all. We had nightly movies at the best theater in town and just like they had told us before we left home, there was a beautiful young female behind each tree, but they had failed to tell us that there were no trees. We did have connection with the outside world by use of radio and for bolstering the morale of the base we had a ham station by which the fellows could talk to the folks back home. I talked to mom and dad several times through Herm Paas, W7LEV, and to my wife and children through Rose Hansen, W7ULK, in Cheney, Washington.

October 3rd turned out to be one of the days that all of us had long awaited. The first mail of a new season arrived at Little America and I am sure it could safely be said that morale hit an all time high. Summer was fast returning to the Antarctic and with it had come the sun which had been absent from our skies for so many months.

I left Little America on the 18th of November for McMurdo Sound to await transportation for the United States. On the 26th of November that great day arrived and I took my last look at the Antarctic as she dropped from sight beneath the wing of our aircraft. It had been a good year and an experience of a lifetime.

Temperatures at Little America had ranged from a summer-time high of 33° F. to a winter-time low of -73° F.

Our first stop after leaving McMurdo Sound was Christchurch, N. Z. We left there on Thanksgiving Day, the 27th of November, and after stopping in the Fiji Islands, Canton Island, and Hawaii, we arrived at Travis A.F.B., California, at 9:30 p.m., the 28th of November. Here I was met by the same three people who I had left in Seattle more than a year before—my wife, Ruth, and our two children.

The job was over for me and it was good to be home.

Left Seattle—November 19, 1957

Arrived Little America V—January 5, 1958

Left Little America V—November 18, 1958

Left McMurdo Sound—November 26, 1958

Left New Zealand—November 27, 1958

Arrived at Travis A.F.B., Calif.—November 28, 1958

1959

Way back in 1905, two men who had served in the Spanish-American War worked together at Kiona. Of the 450,000 volunteers who served in this war, an estimated 15,000 are living today. Of that group of vanishing Americans, three are Prosser residents.

They are Charles Smith, 88 years, Carl Rodgers, 83 years, and M. B. Elliott (Mac) who calls himself, at the age of 81 years, the kid of the bunch. Of the three, Elliott was the only one to see action.

He spent three years in the Phillipines as an infantry private.

Mac Elliott was a barber for many years in Kiona but is now retired from his trade.

"It's hard to believe but Kiona was a boom town in 1905," Elliot said. "I used to send out \$100.00 worth of laundry from my shop every week."

Smith, who is a retired builder, was in Kiona in 1905 constructing a printing shop for an early Benton County newspaper. Both the Smiths and Elliotts have celebrated their 50th wedding anniversaries.

Would the three enlist again if they were asked . . .

"Of course," they replied.

These veterans were honored by the American Legion when they held their annual George Washington birthday dinner.

In Closing . . .

We, the History Committee of the Community Development Program of Benton City sincerely hope that every one will enjoy the effort we have put forth to furnish the data herewith from the years 1853 to 1959 and that in the future someone will enjoy carrying on from where we have left off. We end this with praise for all who have worked to make this record a success and thanks for their good will.

C-VIRNITA B-WHITE BLUFFS D-COLD CREEK ARTESIAN WELLS E-OLD HUDSON BAY JOST

